

European Police Detain Algerians

5 Nations See World Cup Threat

By Barry James
International Herald Tribune

BRUSSELS — Police in five European countries on Tuesday raided the homes of people suspected of supporting an Islamic extremist group in Algeria. Officials said the coordinated operation — in Belgium, France, Germany, Italy and Switzerland — was aimed at forestalling the threat of terrorist violence during the World Cup soccer tournament, which opens in France next month.

France was the scene of a series of bomb attacks by Algerian Islamic militants three years ago in which eight people were killed and 170 were wounded, and officials were clearly concerned about the possibility of new violence during events that will draw hundreds of thousands of spectators and be seen by a worldwide television audience of billions.

The raids, which officials said had been planned for months, were coordinated by anti-terrorist investigating judges in France, where officials said the police raided 43 locations in Paris, Lyon and Marseille and on the island of Corsica. The officials said 53 people were detained for questioning, including one man wanted in connection with a failed bomb attack in Paris last month.

Suspects in France can be held for up to four days without charges. Other European countries have similar rules on the detention of suspects in criminal and anti-terrorist investigations.

In Karlsruhe, Germany, the federal prosecutors office said the police raided seven locations and seized video cassettes, computer disks and papers.

"The investigations are into Algerian citizens suspected of belonging to a group that provides explosives and logistical support to Islamic extremists in Algeria, principally the GIA," the statement said. The GIA is the Armed Islamic Group, the most radical of the terrorist groups seeking to overthrow the government of Algeria.

The police said they had detained two Algerians suspected of being aides to a top Islamic Group leader.

Officials contend the group is responsible for a wave of massacres in Algeria, where an estimated 65,000 people have been killed since 1992, when the military government canceled elections that an Islamic fundamentalist party was on the verge of winning.

There was no indication that any specific terrorist

See ARRESTS, Page 7



British war veterans turning their backs in protest Tuesday of the Japanese entourage.

Emperor Gets Mixed Reception

British War Veterans Protest as Queen Welcomes Akihito

By T. R. Reid
Washington Post Service

LONDON — The emperor of Japan has arrived in Britain to what can only be called a mixed reception: a royal welcome at Buckingham Palace, and racist epithets in the popular press.

The state visit this week by Emperor Akihito has sparked a sharp split among the British. The controversy pits the bitter memories of a group of British World War II veterans against the eagerness of a younger generation here to cultivate Japanese friendship, markets and investors.

British media coverage of the visit has been strongly supportive of the veterans — and has demonstrated that racial insults and stereotypes that would be taboo in the American press, or in Japanese publications, for that matter, are still standard headline material for the British.

The country's largest-circulation newspaper, The Sun, refers to the controversy over the emperor's visit as the "Jap Row." Speakers on television and radio talk shows routinely use similar terms.

The word "Jap" is a deeply offensive term of racial bias, a Japanese government spokesman, Sadaaki Numata, said. "It is painful that some British media still use it so freely."

Emperor Akihito has received a formal greeting with all the trimmings from his old acquaintance, Queen Elizabeth II. Among many other activities Tuesday, she named him a Knight Commander of the Most Noble Order of the Garter, the palace's highest title of chivalry.

Prime Minister Tony Blair also offered a warm welcome to the visitor. He called on all Britons to "celebrate the relationship that now exists" be-

See SNUB, Page 6

As Economy Deteriorates, Russia Asks IMF for Help

Markets Find Fault With Plan to Raise Revenue

By Daniel Williams
Washington Post Service

MOSCOW — Its currency and stock markets reeling in the face of mounting economic woes, Russia has asked the International Monetary Fund for new, cheap loans to prop up its finances.

The request came during a tumultuous week in which the stock market extended four weeks of decline, interest rates in the bond market soared above 60 percent, striking coal miners tied up the country's rail traffic and the month-old government of Prime Minister Sergei Kiriyenko announced sweeping plans to raise revenue and cut spending.

Russian officials were reluctant to discuss their IMF request, apparently for fear of further upsetting investors.

"We have been negotiating possible financial support for Russia with both the IMF and the World Bank," Deputy Prime Minister Viktor Khristenko said Tuesday. Finance minister Mikhail Zadomov said it was "premature to speak about the size of such a loan or about possible creditors."

Asked what the government would

do to normalize Russia's financial markets, however, Mr. Zadomov acknowledged something must be done soon.

"The situation can't fluctuate like that for long," he said.

On Tuesday, the main Russian stock index fell 1.9 percent, bringing the year-to-date decline to 47 percent, while debt yields soared on doubts the government would manage to cut spending and raise revenue. The Russian/Skate Press stock market Moscow Times Index, which tracks the fifty largest stocks in market value, fell 3.05 percent, to 432.52.

Investors were registering their skepticism about the government's plan to lift revenue by as much as 14 billion rubles (\$2.27 billion) this year and cut spending by 40 billion rubles, in part by reducing energy use at state organizations. The plan, outlined Tuesday, also calls for the government to buy most of its offer of 12 billion rubles in debt at the weekly auction Wednesday to help keep yields down.

A new low-interest IMF loan would reduce pressure on the budget by being used to retire expensive, short-term domestic loans on which the government

KEEPING TRACK

A Market's Plunge

The Russian stock market has declined by more than 45 percent this year, according to the Russian/Skate Press stock market Moscow Times Index, which includes the fifty largest stocks in market value. The base value of 100 was set to Sept. 1, 1994.

Source: Bloomberg Financial Markets NYT

currently pays more than 50 percent interest.

The high interest rate is one reason that investors flee stocks for bonds, where they are ensured a large return.

Moscow first broached the subject of new loans during talks last week be-

See RUSSIA, Page 7

State Dept. Calls Gingrich 'Outrageous'

WASHINGTON (Reuters) — The State Department condemned Tuesday as "appalling and outrageous" comments by the House speaker, Newt Gingrich, that Secretary of

The Dollar

New York	Tuesday 8 A.M.	previous close
DM	1.7705	1.7588
Pound	1.6383	1.6305
Yen	137.895	135.725
FF	5.938	5.8929

The Dow

Tuesday close	previous close
+150.71	8803.73
S&P 500	9114.44
change	1094.02
Tuesday 8 A.M.	previous close
-16.45	1110.47

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Crossword

Opinion

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The Intermarket

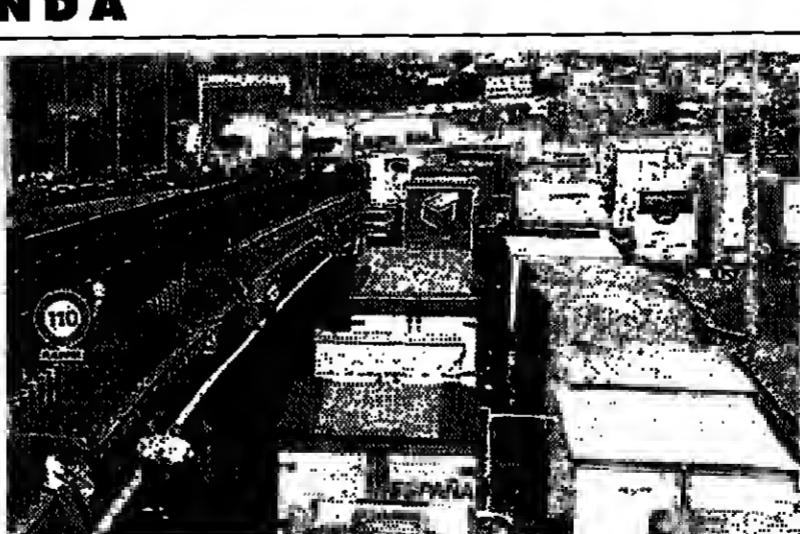
The IHT on-line

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State Madeleine Albright is an agent of the Palestinians.

The department's spokesman, James Rubin, said of Mrs. Albright: "She is an agent for the American people, and any suggestion that she is an agent for anyone else is extremely provocative, unjustified and an outrageous suggestion."

In Jerusalem, Mr. Gingrich went beyond U.S. policy on Tuesday by declaring the city Israel's capital. Page 6.



TRUCK JAM — French truckers blocked several highways Tuesday but vowed not to take further action until September. Air France pilots, meanwhile, reiterated a threat to strike during the World Cup. Page 2.

'Microsofties' Feel So Unloved and Misunderstood

By Amy Harmon
New York Times Service

REDMOND, Washington — Of all the U.S. government's affronts that Microsoft Corp. feels it has had to endure, the most galling to many here at One Microsoft Way was the admission last week by Attorney General Janet Reno that she did not use a personal computer.

Much of the United States might have taken little notice of Ms. Reno's remark, but for the troops of technologists who breathe life into machines, it sug-

gests a revealing explanation for the landmark antitrust suit against Microsoft — a suit that otherwise simply did not compute here.

The prevailing logic among Microsoft's employees holds that only rank ignorance could explain the Justice Department's attempt to block something so logical, so beneficial to consumers as building an Internet browser with an operating system.

"The problem with the Justice Department is they don't understand how computer software works," said David Pritchard, chief of recruiting for Microsoft. "And they don't understand us."

Such attitudes may reflect the institutional arrogance that helped land Microsoft in court. But they also underscore how the view of the people who drive the most successful U.S. company of the late 20th century clashes so sharply with that of the government.

If Microsoft is misunderstood, the unfolding antitrust case certainly provides insight into its cohesive corporate culture, where defense of the company goes beyond the expected rallying of workers around a besieged employer. Inspired by a sense of technolo-

See MICROSOFT, Page 7

South Korea Girds For General Strike

By Don Kirk
International Herald Tribune

SEOUL — A militant South Korean labor confederation called Tuesday for a general strike to start Wednesday, defying government warnings of a crackdown and sending stocks tumbling sharply for the second day in a row to their lowest point in more than a decade.

After 32,000 workers at Hyundai Motor Co. voted to go on strike for at least two days to protest planned layoffs, the Korean Confederation of Trade Unions said 120,000 of its 600,000 members at 90 heavy industrial concerns would join in the walkout.

The strike threat, along with fresh signs of increasing corporate debt and the falling value of the yen against the dollar, have all conspired in recent days to puncture the stock market as they heighten fears that South Korea's economic problems are growing.

Throughout Tuesday, investors unloaded shares with increasing velocity, leading Yonhap, the semi-official national news agency, to warn of "panic over a possible market breakdown."

After falling 6.7 percent Monday, the benchmark index fell 20 points, or 6 percent, to close at 311.99, another 11-year low. Many market observers predicted that stocks would quickly fall through the 300 barrier.

Hyundai Motor shares have fallen 40.8 percent in the past three months.

The continued decline of the stock market was a bitter disappointment to government officials, who had believed the economy was slowly recovering from the depths of December, when the nation was close to bankruptcy.

After banks and companies managed to meet debt obligations as a result of a rescue package of nearly \$60 billion pieced together by the International Monetary Fund, the market edged up to

a high for the year of 591.7 points in late March.

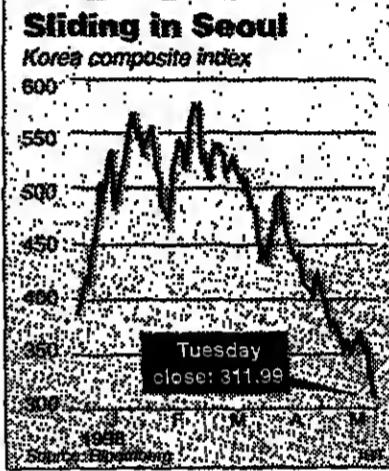
Officials had expected foreign investors to shore up the market after abolishing the 55 percent ceiling on foreign ownership of private companies beginning Monday, but investors paid far more attention to the negative signs in the economy.

"There was a misguided belief there would be a strong interest in the blue-chips on the expectation of a buying binge from foreign investors which did not materialize," said Edward Campbell-Harris, director of Jardine Fleming Securities in Seoul. "The country is paying a heavy price for the mistakes of the last decade."

Once the word spread that the foreigners were not buying, Mr. Campbell-Harris said, the market went into "a bit of a free fall, and it also didn't help to have the news of the strike."

Foreign investors, according to Mr. Campbell-Harris, showed interest in only one major company, Pohang Iron

See STRIKE, Page 19



German Opposition Advertises a Cabinet

By John Schmid
International Herald Tribune

right government of Chancellor Helmut Kohl, who has presided over Germany for a record 16 years.

[Mr. Kohl's] conservatives denounced the choice, adding that other personnel decisions presented by the SPD on Tuesday as the next finance minister, if the party prevails in the September election.

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Truckers Operate French Roads
But Pilots Vow 2-Week Strike

High Court Places Most of Ellis Island in New Jersey

Reuters

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Supreme Court handed New York a bitter defeat Tuesday by ruling that all but a small part of Ellis Island, the nation's historic gateway for 16 million immigrants, falls in New Jersey.

While New York will keep the island's original three acres (1.2 hectares) the high court ruled, 6 to 3, that all the land added to the island to create the landmark U.S. immigration processing center, which operated from the 1890s until 1954, belongs to New Jersey.

"After 1891, when the United States decided to use the island to receive immigrants, the national government began placing fill around its shoreline and over the next 42 years added some 24.5 acres in the area of the original island," Justice David Souter wrote.

"The issue in this case is whether New York or New Jersey has sovereign authority over this filled land. We find that New Jersey does," Justice Souter wrote.

New York had contended that history was on its side and that all of Ellis Island should be considered part of New York state.

Historic Ellis Island is in New York Harbor, 1,300 feet (430 meters) from Jersey City, New Jersey, and one mile (1.6 kilometers) from the tip of Manhattan in New York City.

At issue were questions of sovereignty over the island, now a museum run by the National Park Service. While the island has fallen within New York borders since the 17th century, New Jersey sued in 1993, claiming that parts of it were within its territory.

Justice Souter agreed, even though he acknowledged that the effect of the ruling would be to draw a boundary line that divides not only the island, but some of the buildings on it, including the main immigration processing building.

The U.S. government holds title to the Ellis Island land. Still, the boundary dispute involved not only symbolic bragging rights but also a number of practical considerations.

Justice Souter noted that state jurisdiction determined issues of taxation, zoning, environmental protection, elections, education, residency, insurance, building codes, historic preservation, and which laws apply.

In a 44-page opinion filled with historical references, he rejected New York state's contention that an 1834 agreement between the two states gave New York sovereign authority over the filled land.

Justices John Paul Stevens, Antonin Scalia and Clarence Thomas vigorously dissented.

"The evidence indicates that the millions of immigrants entering the country, as well as

the hundreds of residents of the island, believed that Ellis Island was located in New York," Justice Stevens wrote. "For many of the immigrants, their journey to America began with a steamship ticket with the destination listed as 'New York.'

He criticized Justice Souter's opinion as resting "on a hypertechnical focus on detail that overlooks the significance of the record as a whole."

Justice Stevens added: "Now New York's share of the island is an enclave within New Jersey's share of the island."

The U.S. Justice Department had supported New Jersey in the long-running legal battle.

■ High-Speed Chase Suit Is Rejected

The Supreme Court ruled Tuesday that police officers cannot in most cases be forced to pay damages under a federal civil rights law for killing or injuring someone during a high-speed chase. The Associated Press reported.

The court decided unanimously that the parents of a California teenager who was struck and killed by a deputy's car could not sue the deputy under the civil rights law. It said that police could be held liable only when their actions would "shock the conscience."

The court rejected a more lenient standard urged by the youth's parents, whose lawsuit

accused the deputy of violating their son's constitutional rights in 1990 by engaging in a dangerous pursuit at speeds approaching 100 miles an hour.

"We hold that high-speed chases with no intent to harm suspects physically or to worsen their legal plight do not give rise to liability under the Fourteenth Amendment" and federal civil rights law, Justice Souter wrote for the court.

"A police officer deciding whether to give chase must balance on one hand the need to stop a suspect and show that flight from the law is no way freedom, and, on the other, the high-speed threat to everyone within stopping range, be they suspects, their passengers, other drivers or bystanders," he wrote.

The ruling was a federal appeals court decision that Tom and Thomas Lewis, the parents of Philip Lewis, could sue a Sacramento County sheriff's deputy, James Smith, over the death of their 16-year-old son.

The youth was a passenger on a motorcycle that failed to stop when another deputy tried to flag it down. The pursuit went on through several stop signs, forcing two cars and a bicyclist off the road, before the motorcycle skidded in a halt. Mr. Smith tried to stop his car but hit Paul Lewis. The youth was pronounced dead at the scene.

POLITICAL NOTES

Budget Surplus at \$39 Billion

WASHINGTON — With tax revenues swollen by a strong economy and a booming stock market, the Clinton administration said Tuesday that the nation's budget surplus is expected to hit a record \$39 billion this year.

"America can now turn off the deficit clock and turn on the surplus clock," President Bill Clinton said in a Rose Garden ceremony.

The windfall is sure to intensify political pressure for tax cuts and spending increases. But Mr. Clinton said again that the money should be reserved for strengthening Social Security.

Once the solvency of the Social Security system is guaranteed, he said, the nation can open a debate next year about cutting taxes.

Just five months ago, Mr. Clinton predicted a deficit of \$22 billion. But a torrent of money has been pouring into the Treasury thanks to the strong economy, leaving economists scrambling to update their forecasts.

"This is, of course, very good news for the American people," the president said. "Now it's official that this year, well ahead of the most ambitious schedule, America has balanced the budget."

(AP)

Representative's Big Ambition

WASHINGTON — Springtime in Washington makes Bob Livingston the man in see. As chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, he allocates the money that keeps the government running and keeps members of Congress in good standing at home. Now he has declared that he wants to be speaker of the House.

The dual roles fit hand in glove.

As a candidate for speaker, Mr. Livingston, a Republican from Louisiana, needs to please his colleagues in win their votes. As chairman of Appropriations, he has a very direct way of pleasing them.

Adding to the intrigue over Mr. Livingston is the aggression he has shown in pursuing the job — which is not open.

The speaker's position — behind the vice president's in succession in the presidency — may not be open for three more years. Newt Gingrich, Republican of Georgia, is visibly filling the role while trying with a run for president, a decision he has said he will not announce until Labor Day of 1999.

Even then, he might not resign as speaker, a job the rules allow him to keep until Jan. 3, 2003. And Mr. Livingston says he supports Mr. Gingrich as long as he wants to stay.

But Mr. Livingston has also been forceful in seeking support. And many of his colleagues worry that his pursuit of a job that is not open is an over-symptom of a House already destabilized by Mr. Gingrich's unpredictable style and uncertain future.

Several committee chairmen recently wrote Mr. Livingston telling him that his actions were premature and distracting.

(NYT)

Airport Tries Lasers To Spot Turbulence

New System Can 'Hear' Air Moving

By Matthew L. Wald
New York Times Service

hazard to planes at low altitude, and to detect clear-air turbulence, another danger in aircraft.

The technique had a two-week tryout recently in the patchy grass at the end of Runway 31 Right at Kennedy International Airport. As inbound jets screamed overhead every few minutes at 200 feet and 200 miles an hour, a team of scientists tested two laser-powered "ears."

Soon, they hope, the lasers will let them pinpoint distant dangers that radar can miss.

Already the scientists are adding to the database about the corkscrew-like vortex that comes off each wing tip of planes in flight, generating turbulence that can cause planes following too close to lose control.

The scientists say the technique could also help with tornado-spotting.

"There is mounting evidence that all of these weather phenomena and man-made vortices generate sound," said Frank Rees, the inventor of the system, which is based on a formerly secret navy method for listening underwater for ships and submarines.

Radar is the main method for tracking distant objects or weather phenomena, but radar cannot see air movements unless the air has fairly substantial objects in it, like raindrops or hail.

The idea of the new system, called Socrates, for Sensor for Characterizing Ring-Eddy Atmospheric Turbulence Emanating Sound, is to use lasers, which are far more precise than radar waves, in what amounts to seeing sound, rather than hearing it.

The Federal Aviation Administration has provided about \$3.5 million for the project in the last two years.

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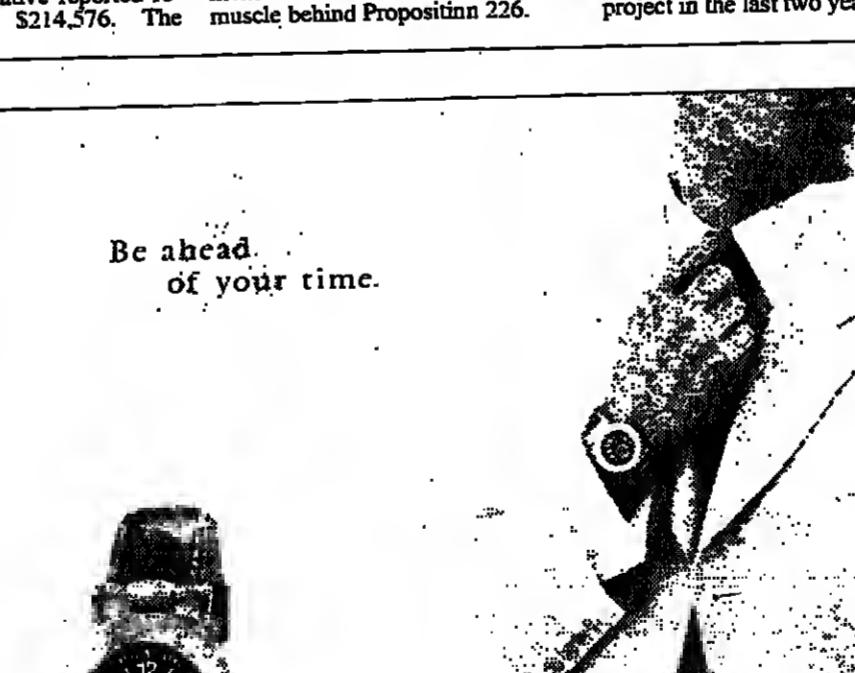
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Drive Falters to Curb Labor's Election Spending

By David S. Broder
Washington Post Service

SACRAMENTO — The Republican drive to choke off the flow of cash from organized labor to liberal candidates and causes has hit a big roadblock in its crucial test on the June 2 California ballot.

Support for the "Paycheck Protection" initiative, which would require an annual, written authorization from each union member for political use of any dues money, has eroded from an early lead of more than 2 to 1 to the point where it may not pass.

The outcome has national importance for both parties. Labor has been the biggest single contributor to Democratic campaigns, investing at least \$119 million in the last election cycle. President Bill Clinton and Vice President Al Gore both denounced Proposition 226, as it is known, in California appearances.

The speaker of the House, Newt Gingrich, Republican of Georgia, who blames the 1996 union ads for

almost costing the Republicans control of the House, has campaigned for "Paycheck Protection" from coast to coast.

Pete Wilson, the Republican governor who has staked his political prestige and possible presidential hopes on its approval, blamed the turnaround on an "avalanche" of negative radio and television ads, mailings and phone calls from labor.

"Ironically, they are attempting to black out the truth by using the same abusive, corrupt technique of check-off without consent that this initiative would stop," Mr. Wilson said. "But I think people will see through it and we will win."

Private tracking polls show Proposition 226 dropping close to or even below 50 percent after enjoying initial support from more than 70 percent of the voters. A Los Angeles Times poll reported Saturday that the initiative is supported by 51 percent of the likely voters and opposed by 37 percent.

National labor officials have said that stopping the initiative is one of

their top priorities and have poured almost \$20 million into the effort. The "Paycheck Protection" cause has been hampered by disputes among its early backers and by the unwillingness of major California business organizations to go to the mat against labor.

The falloff jeopardizes hopes by national conservatives and Republican leaders that Proposition 226 would be duplicated across the country.

Going into the closing drive, opponents outspent Proposition 226 backers \$11 million to \$1 million on broadcast advertising. Mr. Wilson recently loaned Californiaans for Paycheck Protection \$550,000 from his own political action committee to help pay for a closing TV drive. Overall, Mr. Wilson has supplied almost two-thirds of the \$1.9 million that the committee has taken in.

A separate "Yes on 226" committee conducting a grass-roots campaign for the initiative reported receipts of only \$214,576. The

combined total of \$2.1 million is dwarfed by the \$19.3 million reported by five labor and teachers' groups opposing the initiative.

Two outside groups, Citizens for a Sound Economy and the National Taxpayers Union, have been on the air with "educational" campaigns on workers' rights.

Because their ads do not expressly advocate a "yes" vote, they can be financed through tax-exempt foundations and the two groups do not have to report what was spent on them. John Berthoud, president of the National Taxpayers Union, says his group has committed "over \$1 million

ASIA/PACIFIC

Tokyo Gas Attacker Gets Life Term

Reuters
TOKYO — One of five cult members who released sarin nerve gas in the Tokyo subway system three years ago received a sentence of life imprisonment Tuesday.

Ikuro Hayashi, once a senior member of Aum Shinrikyo, could have received the death penalty for the attack in 1995, which killed 12 persons and made thousands ill.

"Given the cruelty and the grave consequences of the crime as well as the victims' feelings and the social impact the crime has caused, the death penalty would have been obvious," said the presiding judge, Megumi Yamamoto, in Tokyo District Court.

But he said that Mr. Hayashi had turned himself in and that his confes-

sions had helped in the prosecution of other cult members, including the leader, Shoko Asahara.

Mr. Hayashi had also shown deep remorse, the judge noted.

The sentencing was the first among the 14 principal defendants accused of staging the attack the subway system on March 20, 1995.

Mr. Hayashi and other cult members released sarin on crowded commuter trains during the morning rush hour by using umbrellas with sharpened tips to puncture plastic bags filled with the deadly gas.

Mr. Hayashi, 51, a former heart surgeon at the prestigious Keio University Hospital in Tokyo, apologized to the victims of the attack.

Mr. Asahara, who is the subject of 17

prosecutions, is accused of ordering the subway attack. Apart from Mr. Hayashi and four members involved in actually releasing sarin gas, the other main cult defendants are accused of acting as lookouts or driving getaway cars.

Prosecutors say Mr. Asahara believed that the end of the world was near and that the sect should wage a terrorist campaign to bring down the government and give the cult control of Japan.

Despite the prosecutions, Japanese authorities are concerned that the cult is stepping up its activities.

In late April, it gathered 300 followers for a one-week seminar at a site near Tokyo, where it managed to collect 24 million yen (\$175,000), a recent police report said.



Ikuro Hayashi, shown in 1995 after his arrest in the subway gas attack.

Cult Targeted Millions

But Germ Attacks in Japan Were Failures

New York Times Service
The following article was reported by Sheryl WuDunn, Judith Miller and William J. Broad and was written by Mr. Broad.

NEW YORK — In repeated germ attacks in the early 1990s, an obscure Japanese cult tried to kill millions of people throughout Tokyo and, a cultist has now testified, at nearby U.S. bases where thousands of troops and their families live.

The biological strikes were not detected at the time and their significance has only recently become clear to Japanese officials still investigating the Aum Shinrikyo cult's activities.

As far as is known, there were no deaths. But an examination of court testimony and confessions by the cult's members, as well as interviews with Japanese and U.S. officials, shows that its germ attacks were far more numerous than previously known.

Hoping to ignite an apocalyptic war, the group sprayed pestilential microbes and germ toxins from rooftops and convoys of trucks. Its members have testified that the targets included the Japanese Parliament, the Imperial Palace, the surrounding city and the U.S. base at Yokosuka, which is headquarters of the 7th Fleet.

For U.S. officials trying to build up the country's defenses against germ terrorism, the drama has encouraging aspects. It suggests that such attacks can be harder to carry out than many had thought and that governments can find ways to increase the difficulties even more.

Most fundamentally, the officials say, the cult's five-year effort to sow terror and death with lethal microbes shows that germ warfare is no longer the sole province of rogue states but is within reach of extremists with a scientific bent.

Acknowledging such threats, President Bill Clinton announced a series of measures last week to enhance germ defenses, including the stockpiling of antibiotics and vaccines.

Aum Shinrikyo burst into the headlines in 1995 when it released chemical nerve gas into Tokyo's subways, killing a dozen people. Its bioterrorist work, meant to be thousands of times more devastating, was mentioned only in passing in scattered reports.

The cult carried out at least nine biological attacks. The strikes failed largely because Aum never got its hands on germs of sufficient virulence.

The full extent of the cult's activities may never be known. Japanese authorities knew nothing of the germ danger until long after the attacks had occurred and key evidence had been destroyed. Moreover, a top cultist with germ

knowledge was killed. Today, Washington sees the cult's efforts at biologic Armageddon as a wake-up call and a spur to curb the free exchange of microbes that has helped the world's scientists crush diseases around the globe.

Washington was stunned in the late 1980s and early 1990s when it realized that germ banks used by U.S. researchers had inadvertently delivered toxic microbes in the military forces of Saddam Hussein as well as to domestic terrorists.

In recent years the government has begun a quiet campaign to tighten access to hazardous germs. So far, however, it has had little success getting similar safeguards adopted by hundreds of foreign germ repositories, including those in Japan.

William Patrick 3d, who helped make U.S. biological weapons before President Richard Nixon outlawed them nearly three decades ago, said it was essential for world safety to restrict germ commerce.

A particular species of harmful microbe might come in dozens or even hundreds of subvarieties. Mr. Patrick said. Only one such strain might pose exceptional dangers of sickness and death.

For would-be terrorists, he added, "getting the most infectious and virulent culture for the seed stock is the greatest hurdle."

Fearing that Iran and Iraq would use germ weapons in their war, U.S. policymakers cut off pathogen exports to the combatants. The Commerce Department acted Feb. 23, 1989. A ban was declared on the shipment of dozens of pernicious microbes not only to Iran and Iraq but also to Libya and Syria, which were also suspected of trying to acquire germ weapons.

"We knew we were sitting on a time bomb," said a federal official who helped set the policy.

Raising the issue internationally, the United States asked its allies to impose similar restrictions. But little happened until the Gulf War in 1991, when coalition members came to fear that Baghdad was preparing attacks with germs that Washington had put into Iraqi hands years earlier.

Late in 1992 the Australia Group, an informal body of more than 20 industrialized nations that share intelligence on technologies useful for making weapons, called on its members to end exports of scores of human pathogens to rogue states.

But the call came in the form of recommendations, not rules. The group's advice carried little or no weight with dozens of nonmember states, many of which freely exported germs and saw multinational controls as a conspiracy to keep them developmentally backward.

In addition, there was a threat that the belated patchwork of export controls, missed entirely. Aimed at rogue states, they did nothing to limit the sale of deadly germs within countries, not even to suspicious groups or individuals.

Aum's biological arms chief was Seiichi Endo. Born in 1960 and once a graduate student in biology at Kyoto University, he had the title of health and welfare minister. In theory, his job was simple: He was to find a few lethal germs, feed them special foods, grow them to astronomical numbers and turn the resulting brew into a widely dispersible material, preferably a fine mist or powder that could easily penetrate human lungs.

His first effort, authorities say, focused on the botulism microbe, known as *Clostridium botulinum*, which produces the strongest known poison against humans. When ingested, the toxin quickly paralyzes muscles and lungs. It is far more deadly than any nerve gas — except that it loses much of its potency when inhaled. And no one knows what respiratory dose is lethal.

For terrorists, the microbe is nonetheless attractive since it is rather easily found in nature.

A month after it obtained the microbes, in April 1990, the cult sent a convoy of three trucks rumbling into the streets of central Tokyo to spray poisonous mists. Shigeo Sugimoto, the guru's chauffeur and one of the drivers that day, later testified in court. He said the convoy then crossed the wider Tokyo Bay region to attack U.S. bases. It first moved south to the U.S. Navy installation at Yokohama, then to the sprawling base at Yokosuka.

A Hong Kong Dilemma

Clinton Opts Not to Meet Privately With Lee

By John Pomfret

Washington Post Service

HONG KONG — U.S. officials have told Martin Lee, the leader of opposition forces in Hong Kong that won 60 percent of the popular vote in an election here this week, that President Bill Clinton has no plans to meet with him privately during his planned stopover here in June, sources said Tuesday.

State Department officials have suggested instead that Mr. Clinton meet with Mr. Lee and the leaders of the other political parties in Hong Kong, including several pro-Beijing parties, which won seats in the voting Sunday.

Mr. Lee's office strongly opposes that plan, afraid to his Democratic Party said, because it implies that Mr. Lee's status and those of the pro-Beijing groups, some of which did not participate in the directly elected portion of the vote, are equal.

Sources close to the Hong Kong politician said a State Department official told Mr. Lee on May 15 that Mr. Clinton would not meet with him alone or with other democratic activists because he is worried about offending China.

Mr. Clinton met alone with Mr. Lee in April 1997 for 25 minutes in the White House.

"It is very different to see someone in the U.S. as opposed to in their own country," the aide to Mr. Lee's Democratic Party quoted the State Department official as saying.

The sources added that on May 11, Richard Boucher, the U.S. consul general in Hong Kong, proposed that Mr. Clinton meet Mr. Lee in a group.



Martin Lee celebrating his election in Hong Kong with his wife, Amelia.

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Pakistan to Arm Residents Of Kashmir Near India Border

Reuters

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — The government of Pakistan-controlled Kashmir will arm residents of some key border villages to counter any raids by Indian troops, the state chief executive said Tuesday.

The top Pakistan official in the area, Sultan Mahmood, said that arms would be given to committees to provide self-defense to villages threatened by raids from the Indian-held part of the disputed Himalayan region.

He said about 150 villages along a United Nations-monitored Line of Control had been selected where committees of up to 15 people each would be given rifles and communications equipment.

They will fill a strategic gap left by Pakistani forces that do not cover the entire 720-kilometer (450-mile) line that divides Kashmir, he added.

Tensions between the two archrivals were heightened by five Indian nuclear tests this month and Indian warnings of pro-active action against separatist Kashmiri militants who it says take refuge in Pakistan-held Kashmir.

General Jehangir Karamat, a Pakistan Army chief, told his troops Monday that India might operate along the Kashmir control line and that such a move could trigger a Pakistani response.

"The situation in Kashmir is very grave," Mr. Mahmood said. "They are violating the cease-fire line."

On Saturday, Prime Minister Nawaz

Sarif said any Indian "misadventure" in Kashmir would be resolutely met. The two states have fought two of their three wars since 1947 over Kashmir, two-thirds of which is ruled by India and the rest by Pakistan.

A small UN force monitors the control line, and Pakistan has demanded that it be reinforced against any Indian incursion.

Pakistan and India accused one another's troops last week of firing across the control line.

■ Troops Exchange Fire

Indian defense sources said clashes with Pakistan along the disputed Kashmiri border heightened Tuesday as troops exchanged shell, artillery and mortar fire in the heaviest fighting in recent days. The Associated Press reported from Jammu, India.

There were no immediate reports of casualties.

Although such clashes are routine, it is unusual for them to be officially reported. The Indian sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, accused Pakistan of building up its troops along the border.

More Indian troops were being brought in to match the Pakistani buildup, they said, refusing to give figures.

India repeatedly accuses Pakistan of arming and training Muslim militants in Indian Kashmir. Militant Kashmiri Muslims seek independence or unity with Pakistan, officially an Islamic state.

BRIEFLY

Burma Allows Dissident Meeting

legal system or that it had surrendered its claim to legal and administrative power over the island. (Reuters)

Australia Marks 'Sorry Day'

SYDNEY — Aborigines wept and church bells rang out across the country Tuesday as Australia held a national day of commemoration for the thousands of Aboriginal children forcibly removed from their families.

Ceremonies were held to mark the first "Sorry Day," named after "sorry business," an Aboriginal term for ceremonies of grief. From the 1910s until the early 1970s, as many as 100,000 Aboriginal children were removed from their families and put in government care. (AP)

Estrada Names Foes to Cabinet

MANILA — Joseph Estrada, who is certain to become the next president of the Philippines, on Tuesday appointed two political opponents to his cabinet.

The appointments were in line with Mr. Estrada's agreement with outgoing President Fidel Ramos to set up a "government of national unity." Mr. Estrada appointed Alexander Aguirre, a retired army general, as national security adviser. Mr. Aguirre served as executive secretary in the outgoing cabinet. Mr. Estrada picked Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, the top vote-getter for the vice presidential post, as social welfare secretary. Mrs. Arroyo was the running mate of Jose de Venecia, candidate of Mr. Ramos's party. (Reuters)

INTERNATIONAL

Gingrich Tells Knesset: Jerusalem Is the Capital

The Associated Press

JERUSALEM — In an outspoken speech to the Israeli Parliament on Tuesday, Newt Gingrich, the U.S. House speaker, went beyond the bounds of American foreign policy and declared Jerusalem "the united and eternal capital of Israel."

Mr. Gingrich, who is scheduled to meet Wednesday with Yasser Arafat, the Palestinian leader, angered Palestinian officials with his pro-Israel stance and attacks on the Clinton administration's Middle East policy.

In comments following his speech, he

accused Mr. Arafat's Palestinian Authority of "inciting violence" or "suggesting violence."

"I think that's exactly wrong," he said.

Ahmed Qureia, speaker of the Palestinian Council, said: "Why does Gingrich hate the Palestinian cause so much? It's good for Gingrich to talk about Georgia, but he doesn't have the right to talk about a region where the two parties haven't reached a settlement."

A Palestinian official said it was still possible that Mr. Arafat might cancel his meeting with Mr. Gingrich to protest the congressman's positions.

The question of Jerusalem, claimed by both Israel and the Palestinians as their capital, is one of the most explosive in the Arab-Israeli conflict. The Clinton administration, like most world governments, has held off recognizing the city as Israel's capital until its final status is settled in peace talks.

In a news conference Tuesday evening, Mr. Gingrich appeared to be trying to soften his remarks on Jerusalem.

Asked if the Palestinians had a right to the city, he said: "It's a perfect example of what needs to be in direct negotiations. The Palestinians and Mr. Arafat have to sit down and work it out with the Israelis."

But in his speech before the Knesset, he said: "We in Congress stand with you today in recognizing Jerusalem as the united and eternal capital of Israel."

Three Arab-Israeli legislators heckled Dan Tichon, speaker of the Knesset, when he introduced Mr. Gingrich, then walked out before the congressman spoke.

Mr. Gingrich said he was not offended by their actions. "I was saddened, because it was a chance for views to be exchanged," he said.

Mr. Gingrich has accused the Clinton administration of siding with the Palestinians by pressuring Israel to accept a 13 percent pullout from the West Bank.

"Israel alone must determine its security needs," he told the Israeli lawmakers. "We cannot allow non-Israelis to substitute their judgment for the generals that Israel has trusted with its security. If Israel is to take risks for peace, as she has often done in the past, it must be risks she accepts, not risks that are imposed upon her."

Earlier Tuesday, Mr. Gingrich pulled out of a symposium on missile defenses that was to be chaired by a U.S. professor who has accused Yitzhak Rabin, a former Israeli prime minister, of running a police state.

The professor, Robert Loewenberg, said his remarks had been taken out of context and accused Israeli politicians of creating controversy to embarrass Mr. Gingrich, an avid supporter of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

Mr. Gingrich refused to answer reporters' questions Tuesday about the symposium, which was to have taken place in the afternoon at the Parliament, with Mr. Gingrich as a key speaker.

Mr. Loewenberg wrote last year that Mr. Rabin "effectively transformed Israel into a police state" in trying to crush opposition to his peace agreement with the Palestinians.

Observers said the attack Tuesday appeared to mark a return by the Armed Islamic Group to attacks on civilian targets, which have been rising this month.

In further bloodshed, six Algerian police officers were killed in two attacks by suspected militants of the Armed Islamic Group, Algerian papers reported Tuesday.

One attack occurred Monday near Tiziaret, a town 100 kilometers east of Algiers against police officers who were about to put up a roadblock, the Tribune newspaper reported. (AP, AFP, Reuters)



Speaker Newt Gingrich addressing the Knesset in Jerusalem on Tuesday.

Renewed Wave Of Bombings Hits Algeria

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

ALGIERS — A bomb ripped through a market south of Algiers on Tuesday, killing seven people and wounding 20 others, security services said.

The bomb, according to witnesses, was hidden in a cow's carcass, which was being brought to a butcher's shop in the Khemis-Miliana market, 110 kilometers (70 miles) south of the capital.

There was no claim of responsibility, but such violence is usually blamed on militants leading an Islamic insurgency.

Another bomb was reported on Tuesday in Douira in the Tipaza district, west of Algiers. A resident, speaking by phone, said five people were wounded in the blast.

"The bomb was planted by a bus stop," a witness said.

The blast in Ain Defla Province was the second bomb attack on a market in five days. On Friday, 16 people were killed and another 61 wounded at an open-air market in the El Harrach suburb of Algiers.

A recent surge in violence in the area has been blamed by the authorities on members of the Armed Islamic Group, the most radical of Islamic groups fighting the government of President Liamine Zeroual of Algeria.

Bomb attacks against civilians are commonplace in Algeria, where an armed Islamic insurgency has been battling the authorities since 1992. Western and humanitarian sources estimate the violence has claimed some 65,000 lives.

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SNUB: U.K. Veterans Protest Akihito's Visit

Continued from Page 1

tween the two island countries.

But a group of British military veterans — men held as prisoners of war by the Japanese in World War II — were hardly in a celebratory mood.

Several hundred of them, wearing their medals and waving the Union Jack, turned their backs and shouted insults as Emperor Akihito rode into Buckingham Palace on Tuesday in a gilded horse-drawn carriage.

The veterans were joined in their snub by many ordinary people lining the route.

The veterans say they were the victims of brutal treatment at the hands of the Japanese Army. They have demanded an imperial apology and cash compensation of £14,000 (\$23,000) apiece.

The Japanese press has responded acutely to the veterans' demands, noting that the British veterans were conquerors and jailers in East Asia before they were conquered, in turn, by Japan.

"The Japanese Army never invaded England," noted the weekly newsmagazine *Shukan Shincho*. "The only British soldiers captured were the ones enforcing imperialism in Asia."

Some voices here have made the same point. But most of the columns and commentary focus — as the Tuesday edition of *The Mirror* put it — on how "our heroes" were "victimized by unspeakable brutality."

The Japanese prime minister, Ryutaro Hashimoto, has joined Mr. Blair in the

effort to defuse the argument. He sent an open letter to the British expressing "deep remorse and heartfelt apology" for the suffering of the prisoners of war.

At the state dinner Tuesday night, Emperor Akihito, whose comments are scripted by Mr. Hashimoto's government, said he and his wife felt "deep sorrow in our hearts" over the suffering of the British prisoners of war.

A Balancing Act for Blair

Amid boozing and jeering of Emperor Akihito, some of the prisoners whistled the wartime tune "Colonel Bogey" featured in the film "Bridge on the River Kwai," which depicted life in a Japanese labor camp. Reuters reported.

Arthur Titterington, chairman of the Japanese Labor Camps Survivors' Association, said: "The fact that so many people have turned out gives us considerable pleasure. It shows we are not alone."

The scale of the protest underlined the tricky balancing act Mr. Blair has to perform during the visit — acknowledging the wartime suffering while urging ever closer ties with one of Britain's most important economic partners. His aides have pointed out that inward investment by the 265 Japanese companies operating in Britain has provided 65,000 jobs and that British exports to Japan total £4.2 billion (\$6.8 billion) a year.

"My generation knows that it owes an espeical debt of gratitude to those who went through that suffering and gave

Clash in East Jerusalem

Mayor Orders Razing of Settlers' Dwellings

By Joel Greenberg

New York Times Service

JERUSALEM — Jewish settlers built makeshift dwellings on disputed land in the Muslim Quarter of the Old City of Jerusalem on Tuesday, setting off a melee between Israeli policemen and Palestinians and prompting the mayor of Jerusalem to issue a demolition order.

In the fighting that erupted in the building site, Palestinians pulled down a settlers' hut, and Palestinian cabinet members and lawmakers were shoved away by club-wielding border police.

Foundations for the unlicensed settlement were laid Monday without intervention by the Israeli authorities. By the time orders were issued Tuesday to stop the construction, it had mushroomed into a new flashpoint of conflict in East Jerusalem, aggravating the strained relations between the Israeli government and the Palestinian Authority.

Tensions in East Jerusalem have been running high since Sunday, when Israel celebrated the 31st anniversary of its capture of the area from Jordan in the 1967 Arab-Israeli war.

Palestinians claim East Jerusalem as the capital of their hoped-for state, and view any Israeli building there as an attempt to sabotage future talks on a final peace agreement. Israel asserts that the area will forever remain part of its undivided capital.

The Atteret Cohanim settlement group, which has bought properties and moved Jews into homes in the Muslim

and Christian quarters of the Old City and elsewhere in East Jerusalem, made the new settlement attempt in response to the fatal stabbing of a settler earlier this month.

The settlers erected nine metal huts on Tuesday morning after pouring foundations Monday on a plot of land they claim near the Old City walls.

"We are working to preserve the unity of the city of Jerusalem, and to make clear to the Arabs that the city will not be divided," said Kalila Har-Noi, a spokeswoman for the settlers. "If Jews can live in New York or anywhere in the world, they can certainly live in their own country."

After the huts went up, the Israel Antiquities Authority obtained a court injunction barring further construction on the grounds that the work was on a historic site and damaging the centuries-old walls of the Old City.

But the structures were already in place, and the settlers went on with other work, bringing in a water tank and stringing up electric bulbs and Israeli pennants. Women with babies and yeshiva students joined the men in the area, and the police made no move to evict them.

The Jerusalem municipality, which took no action Monday as the foundations were laid without a permit, issued its own stop-work order Tuesday after the construction set off a storm of protest by Palestinians and Israeli peace advocates, who came to the area to demonstrate. Mayor Ehud Olmert signed a demolition order Tuesday evening, requiring the settlers to leave in 24 hours.

GERMANY: Opposition Prepares

Continued from Page 1

his government spokesman and shook up his campaign team by adding a new media adviser.

Mr. Schroeder also left himself room for changes in the autumn, which could be necessary if Mr. Schroeder needs to accommodate members from other parties in his coalition.

Although Mr. Schroeder emphasized that final ministry postings were not made, a spokeswoman at the Social Democratic Party's campaign center in Bonn said the names listed by Mr. Schroeder represented his likely cabinet.

Mr. Schroeder would elevate the party's parliamentary leader, Rudolf Schaarling, to foreign minister. Mr. Schaarling unsuccessfully ran against Mr. Kohl in 1994.

Mr. Schroeder already announced that Walter Riester, the deputy chief of the metalworkers union IG Metall, would be his choice for labor minister. Mr. Riester would hold a crucial government post at a time of record unemployment.

Rolf Schmitz, an East German who represents his district in Saxony in the Bundestag, would be responsible for East German policies. Otto Schily, a former member of the Greens, would become interior minister. Edelgard Bulmahn would spearhead education and environment issues. Justice Minister would go to Herta Daeubler-Gmelin.

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INTERNATIONAL

IMF Cautiously Returns to Jakarta*Fund Seeks Ways to Resume Aid Amid Deepening Economic Turmoil*By Seth Mydans
New York Times Service

JAKARTA — Indonesia's political upheaval has worsened its severe economic problems, and a team from the International Monetary Fund arrived here Tuesday to explore ways to restart its international rescue package.

The country's political and economic crises have become intertwined in a dangerous downward spiral and the fund's Asia director, Hubert Neiss, said that the country must urgently address its leadership questions if it is to begin a real recovery.

"We have to recognize that the economic measures will only work and be really effective if there is political stability," he said. "Along with political stability, it is important that the trust of the people in the government is restored, the support of foreign governments are obtained and market confidence is returned."

But on Tuesday, the country's political situation was far from stable. President B.J. Habibie, who took office Thursday when former President Suharto resigned under pressure, promised Monday to hold a new election, but that plan has accelerated a struggle over the future leadership of the country.

Rather than an orderly transition to a stable new leadership, there was the possibility of political chaos as long-suppressed forces began jockeying to fill the political vacuum left by the sudden departure of the strongman who held Indonesia in his grip for 32 years.

New political parties began forming and the formerly illegal labor movement and newly potent student movement



President Habibie mimicking photographers Tuesday while visiting the site of arson damage in Jakarta. (Kewal Advani/Agence France Presse)

Jakarta, said the IMF, the World Bank and international investors remained wary of Mr. Habibie's government, although he had installed a credible economic team made up mostly of holdovers from Mr. Suharto's cabinet.

"The greatest fear is that we will have months of uncertainty," she said. "Certainly, the economic conditions have gotten much, much worse. Analysts used to say recovery would take three to five years. Now they're saying four to five years, after the last two weeks. I don't know how political transition, or certainty, will come about, but it has to come quickly."

Apart from the political questions, Mr. Neiss will find a severely weakened economy as he surveys the current situation. As it recharts its game plan, the IMF will need to revise downward its estimates of the country's economic potential, economists said.

Foreign-exchange reserves have fallen to dangerously low levels and the government has compensated by printing new money, driving up inflation to a projected 47 percent rate this year, a foreign economist said.

The country's privately held foreign debt, estimated at as high as \$70 billion, remains an intractable problem. The banking system is on the verge of collapse. Its peril was heightened Tuesday today by a run on the country's largest private bank, Bank Central Asia, which is partly owned by two of Mr. Suharto's six wealthy children and was a prime target of rioters two weeks ago, reportedly losing 122 offices and 1,250 automatic teller machines to vandals and thieves.

Surveying the economic wreckage, marshaled their forces. Opposition figures debated ways to hurry a transition of power, and the powerful military waited in the wings, its agenda still uncertain.

Mr. Neiss said he would assess the situation as quickly as he could and report back to the IMF board, which must decide whether to resume disbursements from its \$4 billion rescue package that were suspended Friday, one day after Mr. Suharto stepped down.

On Friday, the U.S. Treasury secretary, Robert Rubin, said it would be premature for the fund to resume disbursements as long as the political situation remained unclear.

Mari Pangestu, a leading economist in



Jakarta residents waving Tuesday at President Habibie, who was touring a shopping center burned in the riots. (Worono Karwika/The Associated Press)

private economists have revised downward the estimate of the IMF that the Indonesian economy shrank by 5 percent last year. Various estimates put the shrinkage at anywhere from 10 percent to 25 percent.

Miss Pangestu estimated that unemployment this year would rise to more than 15 million, or nearly 20 percent of the workforce. With food prices rising sharply, she said this meant that as many as 58 million people would soon be below the poverty line, up from 22.5 million at the start of the year.

"You aren't going to see any investment coming in for a while," she said. "The more you look at the numbers, the gloomier it gets."

The situation is compounded by the

people," Mr. Habibie said, adding that the government would not tolerate racism "in any form."

Jakarta was ravaged by rioting on May 14 that claimed nearly 500 lives. Chinatown was the scene of some of the worst rioting and arson as mobs turned against Indonesia's Chinese ethnic minority, which make up only 3 percent of the country's 200 million population but control about half its economy.

Habibie Vows to Fight Racism

Mr. Habibie visited Jakarta's Chinatown on Tuesday and vowed to build a new Indonesia that was free from racism. Reuters reported.

"In Indonesia, we do not recognize racial or religious differences among

calm and to take their protection into their own hands by forming vigilante groups if they felt threatened before the military could come to their aid.

INDONESIA: Tough Road Ahead

Continued from Page 1

founders of the Indonesian Workers Party, said: "We will stage an all-out battle to win the general election and improve the welfare of the workers. If a labor party can govern in Britain and Australia, why not in Indonesia?"

But conservative forces like the military leadership that finally shamed Mr. Suharto aside worry that if political liberalization occurs too quickly — especially at a time of deepening recession — it will make the task of economic recovery much more difficult, if not impossible.

"It is a tricky exercise," the diplomat said. "The Habibie government cannot hope to have stability unless it carries out political reforms. But if reform goes too fast, it could be destabilizing and that will frighten investors and creditors away."

The timing and type of elections that emerge from the maneuvering will be critically important, analysts said.

One key is whether Indonesia's highest constitutional body, the People's Consultative Assembly, will meet before or after elections for the House of Representatives, Indonesia's Parliament. The 1,000-seat assembly includes 500 MPs and 500 military and civilian officials approved by the president.

If the assembly is called into special session by a two-thirds majority vote of Parliament, it would have the power to choose a new president and vice president. It could also determine the timing of political reform and when elections are held.

Many of the key interest groups in the established power structure want elections to be held later rather than sooner. Some simply want to protect their own position; others say it will take at least 12 months to rewrite the laws that unfairly restrict political activity and give new political organizations time to organize and establish themselves.

The armed forces' chief of sociopolitical affairs, Lieutenant General Sutisno Bambang Yudhoyono, said Monday that a national consensus was needed before the country could restructure its political system.

Referring to Indonesia's last experiment with Western-style parliamentary democracy, in the 1950s, which resulted in a succession of short-lived governments and increasing economic difficulties, he said Indonesians "need to learn from history when the nation had many political parties contesting general elections and participating in the cabinet and Parliament."

The general added that the most important prerequisite for reform in Indonesia is "efficient and capable national leadership."

Cholesterol Drug Shown As Helping the Healthy

The Associated Press

CHICAGO — Six million healthy Americans with ordinary cholesterol levels might benefit from taking cholesterol-lowering drugs, researchers say.

Healthy men and women taking lovastatin, sold as Mevacor, reduced their risk of serious heart trouble by 37 percent, according to a five-year study to be published Wednesday in the Journal of the American Medical Association.

"We estimate that 6 million Americans not recommended for drug treatment may benefit" from lovastatin, said the authors, led by Dr. John Downs of Wilford Hall Medical Center at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas.

The findings were also released in November at an American Heart Association meeting and were reported by The Associated Press at the time.

The study involved 6,604 men and postmenopausal women from the ages of 45 to 73 whose average total cholesterol was 221, higher than the recommended cutoff of 200 but typical for Americans. "Good" cholesterol, or HDL, levels averaged 36, lower than the recommended cutoff of 40. "Bad" cholesterol, or LDL, averaged 150, higher than ideal but also typical. Half of the participants got lovastatin, half got dummy pills.

Overall, there were 299 instances of heart attack, serious heart pain or fatal cardiac arrest.

Women taking lovastatin had 46 percent lower risk of heart trouble than the other women. The risk for men on the drug was 37 percent lower. However, the journal noted that cholesterol-lowering drugs — lovastatin is the first of five similar "statin" drugs — cost \$900 to \$1,800 a year at the levels used in the study. The drugs also must be taken for life.

**RUSSIA: A Plea to the IMF for Help Amid Tumbling Markets and Worsening Turmoil**

Continued from Page 1

tween IMF representatives and Russian delegates about the release of a \$670 million portion of a previous IMF loan, according to government sources.

The installment is part of a \$9.2 billion package previously worked out with the Fund. The IMF has held up the release of the latest segment while evaluating Russia's spending and tax-collection policies.

Since autumn, Russia has suffered from a combination of homegrown and international ills.

Laggard tax collection has created delays in payments of salaries to state workers and soldiers as well as pensions to retirees. High interest rates have eaten into the budget, aggravating the government's ability to pay for public services.

Nervous investors have fled the Rus-

sian stock and bond markets partly in fear of an Asian-style meltdown and partly because of the risks of investing in Russia's lawless capitalist jungle.

Abrupt, the prices of oil and gas have fallen and the declines have eaten into the earnings of Russia's main natural resource exporters — and their ability to pay tax arrears.

A clear symptom of the problems brought on by the oil slump appeared Tuesday during a scheduled auction for 75 percent of RAO Rosneft, the last major oil company to be privatized. No one bid for the company, which was priced at \$2.1 billion. The government had hoped to use the funds to make up budget shortfalls. Low oil prices made the prize unattractive to bidders, analysts said.

Similar headaches precipitated the downfall in March of the government led by Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin.

His successor, Mr. Kiriyenko, was named by President Boris Yeltsin to manage Russia's economy to health and provide growth. In his first full month in control, Mr. Kiriyenko has been buried in an avalanche of adverse economic news.

The mine shutdown was a particular blow to Mr. Kiriyenko. Before rising from obscurity to the post of prime minister, he had been in charge of settling disputes in the coal industry. On Tuesday, miners unblocked the last occupied tracks in northern Russia on the promise that back wages and other benefits would be paid.

The problems in the mining industry are emblematic of Russia's mixed bag of economic troubles.

Although privately owned, the mines depend on many state customers for income — and many of these are indigent and refuse to pay their bills. As a result, the miners get no pay. Mine

owners also siphon off money meant for wages, Russian critics contend.

Previous energy ministers have provided stopgap solutions to the problems, but none were able to untangle the intricate web of nonpayment by coal customers and mine management alike.

Mr. Yeltsin followed a familiar pattern of blaming marginal forces for Russia's trials. In the mine case, he said the press and television had blown the problems out of proportion and inspired the miners to obstruct the rail lines.

However, even the bond market has been rocked by concern over the soundness of Russian finances. The business tycoon Boris Berezovsky, through a newspaper he owns, compared government bonds to a pyramid scheme. Investors, he said, were simply being paid in bonds with ever higher interest rates, but ever riskier chances of getting paid off.

INVESTING IN POLAND

IMPLEMENTING 'GROWTH THERAPY'

After shock therapy, priority is expansion.

The second time around is a lot easier for Finance Minister Leszek Balcerowicz. The economy that he "shocked" into restructuring during his first stint as minister of finances (1989-1991) is now purring along. Extending its string of excellent annual results, Poland recorded a near 7 percent rise in GDP in 1997, and a 5.7 percent increase is forecast for 1998.

Economic growth is being impelled by the industrial sector, which recorded a 2.2 percent rise in output during 1996 and 1997, stimulated by a massive inflow of capital. The country invested \$17.4 billion in its long-term capital stock, up 26 percent over 1996's record. Of the 1997 total, a third went to the manufacturing sector, whose capital intake rose 38 percent in 1997.

About one-third of the country's long-term capital — \$6.6 billion — came from abroad. This foreign direct investment (FDI) total was one of the best annual results in the region. As of the end of 1997, Poland had secured \$20.6 billion in FDI over the last nine years.

Positive impact

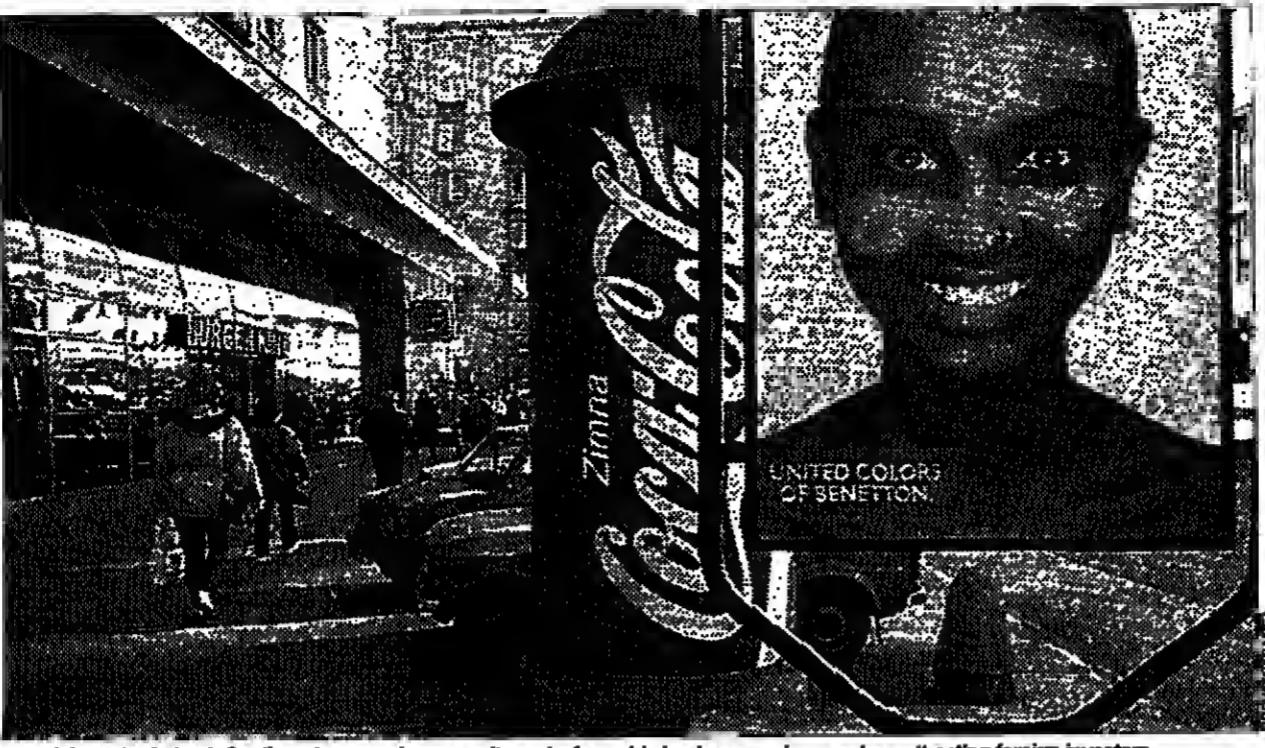
According to PAIZ, the Polish Agency for Foreign Investment, the country's FDI figure is set for another record rise in 1998. Commitments by major foreign investors as of the end of 1997 came to \$10.8 billion. This was up sharply from the previous record of \$7.9 billion in 1996.

Economic growth is having a positive impact on government finances and on daily life in Poland. In 1997, the government budget deficit amounted to 1.4 percent, one of the best results in Europe, and more than a percentage point lower than that of 1996. Inflation is now at around 13 percent, about two points lower than a year ago. Poland's current 10.6 percent unemployment rate is three points lower than it was 12 months ago.

Another positive development is the wage restraint shown by the country's workers, whose average wages remained stable during 1997. There is room for improvement, however, in the country's trade balance, which is now running a deficit of more than 11 percent.

Despite these results, Mr. Balcerowicz is continuing his reform efforts, particularly in the economy's key sectors — heavy industry, mining, agriculture and health care. Political and societal considerations have blocked the restructuring and privatization of these sectors.

Some 34 percent of all companies in Poland are still owned by the public sector. Many state-owned companies are laboring under large and rising payrolls. Several important



Good times for Poland: Continued economic prosperity and a favorable business environment are attracting foreign investors.

privatisations in the above-mentioned sectors have repeatedly been postponed, and others have been carried out in accordance with the country's political rather than economic realities.

Following an ambitious plan formulated by Poland's cabinet, the revamping of the country's chemical and oil-processing industries has begun. The plan's objective is to double the industries' output by 2005 through the investment of \$2.8 billion, half of it to come from abroad, in 105 individual projects. The key aspect of the revamping is the merging of the state firms Petrochemia Plock and Centrala Produktu Naftowych, and this new company's subsequent privatization.

Political pressures notwithstanding, the previous Polish governments had worked diligently to trim the bloated, loss-making coal sector, closing down 11 of the country's 60 mines in the process. The moves failed to slow down the coal sector's increasing net indebtedness, however. To counter this alarming trend, the present administration, headed by Prime Minister Jerzy Buzek, has implemented tough measures that will reduce both personnel and output by 38 percent.

In implementing this far-reaching restructuring, the Buzek administration has a trump card to play: the European Union. One subject of the negotiations now taking place between Poland and the EU is how and when the country's industrial sector will be made fully accessible to non-Polish companies. This freedom of access is a prime precondition of accession to the Union. ■

For further information:
Polish Agency for Foreign Investment (PAIZ)
Al. Róż 2, PL-00-559 Warsaw
Tel.: (48 22) 621 6261 or 621 8904, Fax: (48 22) 621 8427

ELECTRICITY GENERATION: GOING PRIVATE

Poland's electricity sector, which consists of 33 power stations and an equal number of distribution companies, is in the process of being privatized. Often postponed, this process has attracted a huge amount of investor interest. Seventeen bids were submitted by major foreign power suppliers for the Piotrow-Adamow-Konin generating complex, the second largest in Poland, and the second to be put on the block.

The first, the Leg power station, was acquired by Electricité de France in October 1997. A wide range of other power plants are expected to follow in the course of the year. All told, the privatization and the subsequent modernization of the power plants is expected to trigger an influx of \$50 billion into Poland over the next decade.

Level playing field

Looking at the power sector's fundamentals, it is hard to understand why the world's electricity generating industry is rushing to buy up stakes in the Polish market. The price of electricity is currently about one fifth lower than needed to finance plant modernization. Some 30 percent of these plants are hopelessly outdated, and the rest require upgrading of their environmental protection and other facilities. The rush has been set off by a new energy sector law. Promulgated in December 1997, the law creates a level playing field for both domestic and international investors. Based on a British model, it also gives extensive powers to the new independent power-sector supervisory authority.

BANKING ON MODERNIZATION

Poland's banks are popular with investors.

Since independence, Poland's successive administrations have all subscribed to the same vision of the Polish banking sector: a relatively small number of big banks and insurance companies with a small core of central investors and a broad base of private shareholders with a strong Polish complexion.

Though not a true market-driven system, this vision has forged a strong banking sector with a 2:1 balance between domestic and foreign investors in terms of total shares held.

As of the end of 1997, Poland's banks had outstanding loans worth 79.2 billion zlotys (\$23 billion). That represented an increase in real terms of 31 percent. The prime recipients were the country's consumers; total consumer credit rose from \$1.8 billion in 1995 to \$17.2 billion in 1997.

Personal incomes rose 21 percent in 1997, continuing a five-year rise. Private households joined businesses in increasing their savings and other deposits in Poland's banks. Total deposits increased 27 percent for the year, allowing the banks to retain their 31 percent trading surplus (excess of deposits over loans).

Flagship banks

The strength of Poland's banking sector is reflected by its flagship banks. Prominent among them is the Pekao S.A. Group. Formed in 1996 through a four-way merger orchestrated by then-Finance Minister Grzegorz Kolodko, Pekao is the largest banking group in the country when ranked by total deposits. In 1997, the group recorded a 15 percent rise in total assets and a 20 percent increase in capital. Bank Pekao, the group's largest financial institution, recorded a 25 percent rise in individual income for the year.

Also in 1997, the balance sheet totals of the country's 50 largest commercial banks grew by 20 percent in real terms.

These achievements were all the more remarkable because they were recorded during the National Bank of Poland's "get tough year."

The central bank instituted tight money policies and a range of regulatory measures designed to put the banks on the same regulatory and competitive footing as their counterparts elsewhere. One measure was the establishment of binding minimum reserve rates.

Over the same period, domestically owned banks upgraded their services through large-scale purchases of computers, automatic tellers and other devices that are standard in Western banks.

The modernization of the banking sector has continued in 1998. On January 1, Poland's new banking law went into effect. The law provides for the establishment of a commission to supervise the banking sector's operations and gives it sweeping responsibilities and the authority to implement them.

Improved fundamentals and modernization have made the country's banks popular with institutional and private investors in both Poland and abroad.

The June 1997 privatization of Bank Handlowy was welcomed by the Warsaw Stock Exchange. This was followed in October by the privatization of PBK (Bank Powszechny Bank Kredytowy S.A.). Next up is the Pekao Group, which will sell 35 percent of its share capital to the stockholding public. Details of the transaction will be released in late May. ■

PROSPERITY DRIVES CONSUMER MARKET

Personal incomes and consumer spending are up.

There's good news for economists eyeing the galloping expansion of Poland's consumer product markets: Polish consumers aren't living beyond their means.

Average monthly expenditures for Poland's 12.5 million households rose by 50 percent between 1995 and 1997, or 16 percentage points more than inflation. Average monthly household incomes did even better than that, increasing by 53 percent.

While spending on such necessities of life as housing and food is on the rise, expenditures on automobiles, computers and travel have been growing even faster.

In 1996, Poles purchased 374,000 cars — 41 percent more than in 1995. This figure rose a further 27 percent in 1997, reports the country's National Bank. The number of PCs purchased has been increasing nearly as fast. In 1997, Poles bought 550,000 computers. That was 50 percent more than in 1995, and double 1994's total.

Spending on leisure

Travel is another growing consumer market. Spending for vacations increased 60 percent between 1995 and 1997. The prime beneficiaries of this increase have been the airlines, particularly LOT, the nation's flagship carrier.

The increase in outward-bound tourists has supplemented the carrier's traditional bread-and-butter service for incoming Western business travelers and vacationers. LOT's business travelers have been profiting from the carrier's launch of new links between Warsaw and Manchester, and Warsaw and London-Gatwick. These links were added in response to the 18 percent increase in the number of LOT passengers traveling between Poland and the United Kingdom in 1997. Business-class travel on the Warsaw-London route rose 60 percent during the year, reports LOT.

The airline recently received international recognition for its business service: It was named "Best Eastern European Airline of the Year" by the readers of Business Travel World. ■

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Rebels Give Colombia a New Black Eye



Relatives of prisoners who escaped from a Colombian prison crying as they await news at the jail's entrance.

By Serge F. Kovaleski
Washington Post Service

BOGOTA — In a torrent of heavy gunfire and dynamite blasts, leftist guerrillas stormed one of Colombia's major prisons over the weekend, allowing 324 inmates to flee in what was described as the largest escape of its kind in the history of Colombia.

Most of the escapees scrambled out through the main gate of San Isidro Prison, 370 kilometers (230 miles) southwest of Bogota in the city of Popayan, during a three-hour firefight that began late Saturday night.

About 90 members of the country's largest guerrilla group — the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia — battled security personnel at the facility.

Two prisoners and one guard were killed, and nearly a third of the inmate population escaped.

On Monday, the authorities said 46 inmates had been recaptured.

The assault, which investigators say may have been planned by one of the inmates, a rebel leader known as El Rojo, was one of a number of defeats that Colombia's security forces, including the army and prison details, have suffered at the hands of leftist insurgents in recent months.

The Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia and the nation's second-largest rebel organization, the National Liberation Army, together constitute the most powerful guerrilla movement in Latin America, one that controls almost half the countryside while gradually making inroads in urban areas.

The director of Colombia's prisons has warned that those who escaped, many of them rebels convicted of homicide, kidnapping or extortion, are "dangerous criminals, and they constitute a threat to national security."

Like most correctional facilities in Colombia, San Isidro Prison is severely overcrowded, plagued by unhealthy sanitary conditions and frequent deadly riots.

Last year, inmates wielding stones and bricks confronted prison guards in a melee in which six prisoners

were killed and 18 injured.

The weekend breakout, which happened even though security forces had received intelligence reports that guerrillas might strike, is one of a string of recent wholesale escapes from Colombian prisons — many of which were organized by the Marxist rebels.

On April 4, 20 members of the rebel group dynamited the Santander de Quilichao prison to free a rebel leader serving a 60-month sentence. In the midst of the attack, an additional 53 inmates also escaped.

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BRIEFLY

U.K. Nurse Pays 'Blood Money'

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — A British nurse released \$1.2 million in "blood money" Tuesday for an Australian man whose sister she was convicted of murdering, her lawyer said.

Deborah Parry's decision cleared the final hurdle for Frank Gilford to collect the money after a one-year war of words. The money has been put in a trust fund for Mr. Gilford in an Australian bank.

Mr. Gilford had spared Miss Parry's life by waiving his right to demand the death penalty imposed on her last year by a Sandi court, which had found her guilty of stabbing to death Mr. Gilford's sister, Yvonne, in December 1996. In accordance with Saudi Arabia's Islamic laws, Miss Parry agreed to give Mr. Gilford "blood money," which was fixed at an equivalent of \$1.2 million. (AP)

Arafat Calls for Arab Summit

CAIRO — The Palestinian leader, Yasser Arafat, called Tuesday for an Arab summit meeting on stalled Middle East peace efforts and said his people would keep striving to set up their own state.

"From the house of the Arabs, I direct a call to convene an urgent Arab summit," Mr. Arafat said at the Cairo-based Arab League. Mr. Arafat said he welcomed recent efforts to break the deadlock that has paralyzed peace talks for 15 months. (Reuters)

For the Record

Mexico City has imposed emergency smog measures, and haze from forest fires forced the suspension of flights in southern Mexico. The ozone level hit 251 on Mexico City's smog scale Monday. Levels over 100 are considered unsatisfactory, and those over 200 can cause health problems. (AP)

Guatemalan raspberry farmers have adopted health standards allowing them to renew exports to the United States, where the fruit was linked to diarrhea outbreaks in 1996 and 1997, officials said Monday. (Reuters)

BOOKS

THE CRUCIBLE OF CREATION:

The Burgess Shale and the Rise of Animals

By Simon Conway Morris. Illustrated. 242 pages. \$30. Oxford University Press.

Reviewed by Mark Ridley

IVE hundred thirty million years ago, a continent consisting of North America and Greenland — rotated about 90 degrees to the right from their modern orientation — straddled the Equator. Modern western Canada was the continent's north coast. Off that coast lay a cliff, known to geologists as the Cathedral Escarpment, that plunged 100 yards or so into the relative depths. The strange and now famous animals of the Burgess Shale lived at the foot of the cliff. The site of the Burgess Shale fossils is now on dry land in the Canadian Rocky Mountains, indicating that the sea level was higher, and the coast inland, from their positions now.

Simon Conway Morris likes to picture the Burgess animals in their natural setting, rather than as dusty rocks on the museum bench, and he does a good job of

bringing them to life in "The Crucible of Creation." His job is made possible, if not easy, by the extraordinary preservation of the fossils.

Fossils are usually left only if the animal has hard parts (bones or shell), but of the 70,000 Burgess specimens "about 95 percent are either soft-bodied or have thin skeletons, too delicate to survive the normal processes of fossilization." This is a world that is normally lost. Maybe a local collapse in the Cathedral Escarpment, which rapidly buried the animals in a mud slide, is the reason we have even this glimpse.

Whatever the reason, even dinosaur lovers will indulge Cooley Morris's remark that the Burgess Shale is "the most wonderful fossil deposit in the world." The fossils were discovered in 1909 but owe their scientific significance to a research program at Cambridge University in the 1970s and '80s. Stephen J. Gould popularized them in his superb book "Wonderful Life" in 1989.

Conway Morris was one of perhaps three main heroes of Gould's story: the imaginative young scientist responsible for the reconstruction of a most bizarre creature, called

Hallucigenia, almost the symbolic Newt of the apple of the Burgess Shale.

The centerpiece of "The Crucible of Creation," like that of "Wonderful Life," is a description, authoritative and readable, of the animals themselves. There have been some interesting reinterpretations since Gould wrote. One troubling animal, formerly thought to be an arthropod that swam with flapping wings, now moves by the more orthodox procedure of walking on legs. Hallucigenia itself has been turned upside down (or rather, right side up): The formerly upward-pointing possible multiple mouths have become legs, and the whole formerly unclassifiable puzzle has been found to fit, like Cinderella in her ballroom slipper, into an established arthropod category.

Conway Morris additionally gives an account of two new Burgess-like fossil localities. One is in Greenland. It was found in 1984, and Conway Morris is part of the team that has been collecting there since 1989. The chapter about the collection uses a travel writer's pen and is the easiest to read in the book. Conditions can be great, and then "at the fossil site the view is superb: the eye travels along J. P. Koch Fjord to its entrance with the Arctic Ocean, clearly visible" about 60 miles away. Or they can be ghastly, with "low cloud and fog banks" that stop collecting and confine you, shivering, in the tent.

The Greenland fossils are similar enough to those of the Burgess Shale to suggest that the Burgess animals were living below the shoreline all round the continent, and another site in China similarly suggests that they had a global distribution.

New York Times Service

BEST SELLERS

The New York Times		3 TUESDAYS WITH MORRIS	WITH Minch
This list is based on reports from more than 2,000 bookstores throughout the United States. Weeks on the list are not necessarily consecutive.		1. <i>Albion</i> — by Minch	1. 31
FICTION		2. <i>ANGEL'S ASHES</i> — by McCourt	4. 88
Lost Weeks	Wk. on List	3. <i>THE MILLIONAIRE</i>	4.
1. <i>YOU BELONG TO ME</i> — by Higgins Clark	1. 4	4. <i>NEXT DOOR</i> — by Thomas J. Stanley and William D. Danko	5. 70
2. <i>IN A NOOSE</i> — by Craik	2. 3	5. <i>TALKING TO HEAVEN</i> — by Van Praagh	7. 20
3. <i>THE LONG ROAD HOME</i> — by Sondra Seid	5. 6	6. <i>TRIUMPH OF JUSTICE</i> — by Daniel Pennacchi and Peter Knobler	6. 2
4. <i>BLACK AND BLUE</i> — by Anna Quindlen	3. 15	7. <i>THE GIFT OF THE JEWS</i> — by Thomas Cahill	3. 6
5. <i>MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE</i> — by Nicholas Sparks	4. 5	8. <i>THE MAN WHO LISTED 10 HORSES</i> — by Mary Jo Putney	11. 40
6. <i>A WIDOW FOR ONE</i> — by John Irving	12. 2	9. <i>AMAZING GRACE</i> — by Kathleen Norris	9. 5
7. <i>THE STREET LAWYER</i> — by John Grisham	6. 14	10. <i>CONVERSATIONS WITH BECK</i> — by Steve Beck	12. 301
8. <i>A PATCHWORK PLANET</i> — by Anne Tyler	7. 4	11. <i>MIDNIGHT IN THE GARDEN OF GOOD AND EVIL</i> — by John Berendt	10. 75
9. <i>MEMORIES OF A GEISHA</i> — by Arthur Golden	10. 27	12. <i>CONVERSATIONS WITH DODD</i> — by Donald Dodd	8. 5
10. <i>COLD MORNINGS</i> — by Charles Frazier	8. 46	13. <i>APHRODITE</i> — by Isabel Allende	14. 5
11. <i>EDORA</i> — by Anne Rice	9. 9	14. <i>CONSCIENCE</i> — by Edward O. Wilson	15. 50
12. <i>THE TARGET</i> — by Catherine O'Leary	1. 15	15. <i>THE PERFECT STORM</i> — by Sebastian Junger	15. 50
13. <i>THE HAIR IN MY DIRT</i> — by Gary Larson	1. 15	16. <i>ADVICE: HOW TO ANTI-MISCELLANEOUS</i> — by Sarah Ban Breathnach	1. 111
14. <i>DAMASCUS GATE</i> — by Robert Stone	13. 2	17. <i>9 STEPS TO FINANCIAL FREEDOM</i> — by Sam Oshana	2. 8
15. <i>PARADISE</i> — by Christopher Morison	15. 18	18. <i>3 BLASTS</i> — by H. Leighton Stewart et al.	4. 2
NONFICTION		19. <i>IN THE MEANTIME</i> — by Lydia Vacani	3. 5
1. <i>WE ARE OUR MOTHER'S DAUGHTERS</i> — by Coleen Roberts	2. 3		
2. <i>STILL ME</i> — by Christopher Reeve	13. 2		

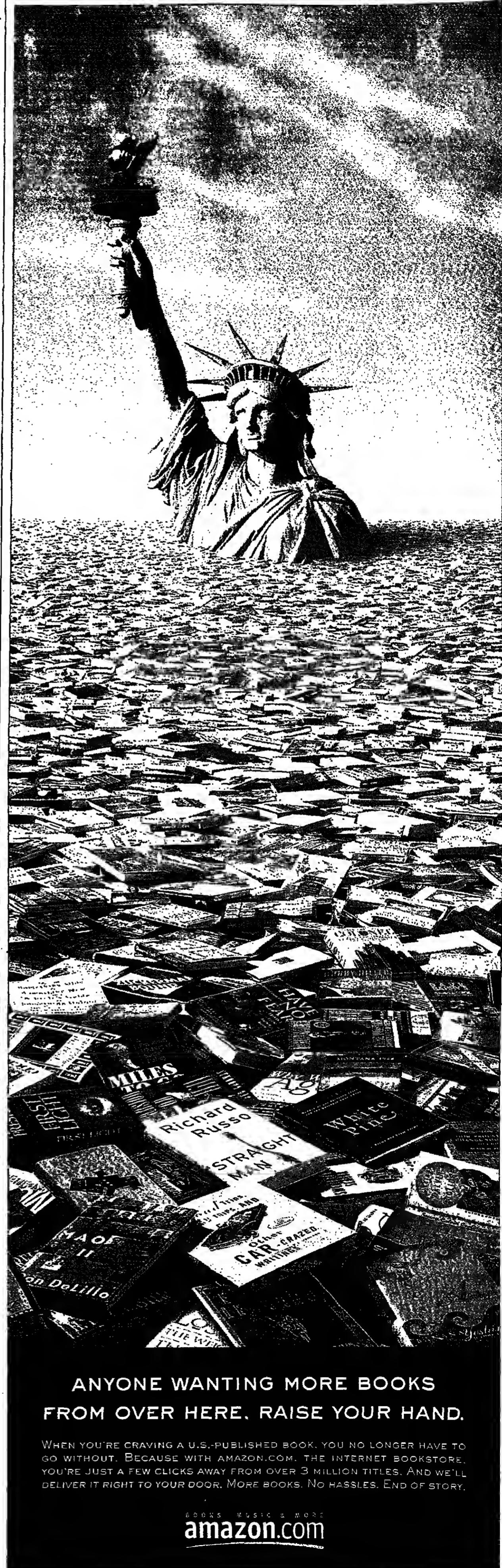
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A Troubling Connection

The American government over the years has been involved in dubious relationships with foreign military institutions, but there has rarely been a more tangled or troubling connection than that between the Clinton administration and the People's Liberation Army of China.

It has produced campaign-funding abuses, serious American security lapses and now a political furor in Washington less than a month before President Bill Clinton is to make the first presidential visit to China since 1989.

Some American association with the Chinese army is essential to stabilizing relations with China. High-level meetings, officer exchange programs and other links can reduce tensions and mistrust.

But while China is not an enemy, it is not an ally either, and caution is required to ensure that sensitive American military technology is not transferred. In its eagerness to improve relations with Beijing and to expand American commerce in China, the White House has been careless about ensuring security protections.

The People's Liberation Army is a powerful force in Chinese life, with overlapping roles in military, political and business affairs.

The army is the world's largest military force, with nuclear weapons and intercontinental ballistic missiles, some capable of reaching the United States.

At least one senior general usually sits on the Communist Party's innermost leadership council. Military-associated companies in areas from rockery to consumer goods generate large profits that have helped finance China's recent military buildup.

The army has played a central role in many of the most contentious issues that have divided China and the United States. Army troops killed Tiananmen Square democratic demonstrators in 1989, army-controlled companies sold nuclear and missile components to Pakistan and other countries and army

— THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Disputes Among Allies

The Clinton administration is attempting what it regards as a creative escape from trade disputes with its closest allies. The disputes arose from American legislation imposing sanctions on Europe for its refusal to be bound by the unilateral American boycotts on Iran and Libya and, separately, on Cuba.

Understandably, allies and other trading partners objected to being penalized for purposes about which they had not been consulted, that they did not support and that they considered counter to World Trade Organization rules. The matter came to a head when the United States sanctioned companies from France, Russia and Malaysia for a big joint and, by those nations' laws, legal investment in a natural gas project in Iran.

The solution the United States now puts forward rests on an unassassable premise. It is that America's purpose is not to alienate trading partners but to gain their support for legitimate American foreign policy objectives — to induce Iraq and Libya to halt the support of terrorism and the building of terror weapons and to induce Cuba to respect the rights of Americans.

— THE WASHINGTON POST.

Sliding Oil Prices

The United States is getting a bonanza from sliding oil prices, which have boosted economic growth and helped to mask the deteriorating trade deficit with the rest of the world. But if oil prices rebound later this year, as the oil industry generally expects, that economic benefit could vanish.

The trade figures are bad even with the benefit of lower oil prices. The Commerce Department last week reported March figures, showing the largest monthly trade deficit in goods and services in at least a decade, of \$13 billion. But it could have been worse, as a 5.2 percent increase in the cost of nonpetroleum goods was offset by a 6 percent fall in the cost of imported oil.

In American markets, the price of crude oil fell below \$13 a barrel last week, a decline of more than \$8 since last fall. Taking inflation into account, the real price is the lowest in more than two decades.

— THE NEW YORK TIMES.

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When Reckless Domestic Politics Steer Foreign Policy

By Thomas L. Friedman

WASHINGTON — So my friend Michael Mandelbaum, the foreign policy expert from Johns Hopkins University, calls me the other morning with a trick question: "What's the difference," he asks me, "between NATO expansion and the Indian nuclear tests?"

Think about it. When the Indians look at NATO expansion, argued Mr. Mandelbaum, they see the United States extending nuclear protection to Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic — against Russia.

The United States has told these

countries — none of which share a common border with Russia or have any border disputes with Moscow — that at a time when the Russian Communist regime that once occupied Central Europe has been overthrown and replaced with Russian democrats, and this new Russian government has withdrawn from Central Europe and signed sweeping nuclear arms reduction treaties, Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic nevertheless need and are entitled to nuclear protection from Moscow.

At the same time, adds Mr. Mandelbaum, the United States is telling India that it is not really entitled to nuclear protection from China — a

China with which India shares a long-disputed border that has been the subject of a bloody war, a China where Communists still rule and where democrats have been suppressed and a China that has not only refused to enter into any nuclear arms reduction treaties but is expanding its nuclear arsenal.

What's more, the United States has told the Indians that their nuclear tests were just a dangerous symbolic political gesture by the ruling Hindu nationalists to thrill their followers.

Let's see now ... a political gesture for domestic politics but with long-term, negative strategic consequences not readily apparent today. Hmm. This Indian nuclear test is exactly like NATO expansion.

What is the lesson here? It is that NATO expansion, India's nuclear tests and, I would add, Israel's refusal to accept U.S. proposals to break the Palestinian-Israeli stalemate because not every right-winger in the cabinet agrees, are all manifestations of the same phenomenon — the collapse of the Cold War international system and the creation of the illusion that the

world is now safe for countries to drive their foreign policies solely by their domestic needs of the moment.

The Cold War was a bad thing, notes Mr. Mandelbaum, but it was nevertheless "an international system that did provide a certain discipline and impose a certain prudence," by threatening very serious costs to anyone who would go too far in indulging his domestic whims on the world stage. The Soviet Union was there to block any NATO expansion with its own nukes. It was there to arm Israel's Arab foes at a moment's notice. And the United States was there to defend Pakistan at the drop of a hat. Reckless policies could and did have immediate, life-and-death consequences.

But the collapse of the Cold War system has changed that. It has created more space for assertive, domestically driven foreign policy initiatives that assume few, if any, external costs. That's because the international system that replaced the Cold War — globalization of markets and technologies — provides a different set of disciplines.

In the Cold War system you could be punished immediately and brutally by either superpower for strategic misbehavior, but economic misbehavior tended to be tolerated or ignored. In

today's globalization system you are punished immediately and brutally by the supermarkets for economic misbehavior (see Indonesia), but more political-strategic misbehavior is tolerated — up to a point.

This is because the immediate disciplining mechanism of two competing superpowers is gone, and therefore punishment now often has to await action by the United Nations, NATO, some ad hoc coalition or global investors.

The Cold War system was good at restraining missile madness, by threatening those who misbehaved with the death penalty. The globalization system is better at restraining economic madness by threatening those who misbehave with loss of investment and bankruptcy.

Which is why NATO expansion, Indian nuclear tests and Israeli obstinacy are all playing with fire. They are all acts of domestically driven foreign policy in a world system that now allows countries to be reckless — but not ridiculous. Actions still have consequences. The possibility of miscalculation and unintended escalations is still alive and well, and they can burst the restraints of any international system.

The New York Times.

Suharto's Record: Flawed but Nonetheless Admirable

By Robert Elegant

ROME — The resignation of President Suharto under intense pressure from popular demonstrations and finally from the military, which holds the keys of power, is a great step forward for Indonesia. Although it was against his will, Mr. Suharto's peaceful departure from power nonetheless crowned decades of great accomplishment.

Although gravely marred by the last 15 years or so of rampant corruption, forcible suppression of opposition and brutal, imperialistic expansion in East Timor, the overall record of Mr. Suharto's administration is, nonetheless, admirable.

He and his American-educated technocrats transformed a nation that was literally bankrupt, with people on the verge of mass starvation. When Mr. Suharto stepped down, the people of Indonesia's 13,000-odd islands were generally well off and better educated; they spoke the national language, as well as their own, widely divergent tongues; they no longer groaned under the oppression of the Javanese, the domineering natives of the largest island, and they truly felt themselves citizens of a nation whose motto is "unity out of diversity."

For the first time the voice of the people has been decisive. No transfer of power in the former East Indies' thousands of years of history as an empire or as a congeries of principalities had ever before been determined by the public's wishes. Certainly no transfer of power in Indonesia's 50 years as a nominal republic had occurred peacefully.

It is used to say that Indonesia was the most stable nation in Asia, perhaps the entire world — after all, it had bad had only two presidents in half a century, Sukarno and Suharto.

That jape was inspired by the constant upheavals, the unceasing strife and the suffering that tormented Indonesia under the grandiose Sukarno. To truly appreciate Mr. Suharto it is

necessary to have seen the catastrophic effects of Mr. Sukarno's government and the extraordinary circumstances under which Mr. Suharto came to power in 1966.

Mr. Sukarno was the most glamorous, if not necessarily the most effective, leader of the revolution that overthrew Dutch rule. He was also the most flamboyant, parading his sexual exploits. The Indonesian people were at first delighted by the great man as irresistible demagogue and, alternately, as lovable scamp. They greatly enjoyed his antics, although the two or three complaisant young women provided by local governments every night of his state visits usually left the next morning unsullied.

By the mid-1960s Mr. Suharto's disregard for almost everything except his own glory had produced acute material distress in Indonesia, which had endured several abortive revolts against him, one sponsored by the CIA. He was not only a stalking horse for the Communists, but a wastrel who scattered the national wealth like confetti.

In late 1965, Sukarno joined

the Communist Party and the air force in what looked like a coup against himself. He was actually seeking to regain the power he had lost in 1965. Sukarno was the only important general to survive. He had

clambered over his garden wall just escaping the assassins. The most junior general the night of the murders, he assumed power as the most senior still living.

Although Mr. Suharto was party to the army's vengeful and merciless extermination of several hundred thousand presumed leftists, his normal style was wholly different from Mr. Sukarno's. His unpretentious jeep even stopped at red lights. Mr. Suharto built a tall white pillar topped by a golden flame, firmly the National Monument but universally known as Sukarno's last erection. Mr. Suharto's monuments are broad boulevards lined by office buildings and hotels.

Assisted by overseas Chinese strategists and financiers, Mr. Suharto's technocrats, the Berkeley mafia, built a largely laissez-faire economy that

spread benefits throughout the islands. Jakarta, the capital, benefited most.

When I first saw the city in the mid-1950s there were no boats, no taxis, no dialing telephones, no supermarkets and few automobiles, restaurants or stores. All those appurtenances of modernity, as well as air conditioning, now exist in abundance.

Alienated by power and responsibility from reality and responsibility, Mr. Suharto subsequently fostered corruption and looting of wealth all but unparalleled in Asia or elsewhere. Nonetheless, he has left Indonesia with the physical and the psychological basis for much greater modern growth.

The writer, author of a number of books on Asia, contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

A Plan to Get Indonesia Back on Its Feet

By Jusuf Wanandi

JAKARTA — Indonesia is fortunate to have ended the 32-year rule of President Suharto without much bloodshed. The succession could have degenerated into civil war or anarchy. Although the process of political change is far from over, the worst seems past. This is due to the restraint shown by the conflicting forces, especially Mr. Suharto himself, the armed forces command, opposition leaders and the students.

But Indonesia must now deal realistically with its unfinished political agenda. Instead of having a new president and vice president elected by a special session of the country's highest constitutional authority, the People's Consultative Assembly, Mr. Suharto elevated his vice president, B.J. Habibie, to replace him.

This transfer of power will not bring about the necessary reforms demanded by the public. Mr. Habibie was hand-picked by Mr. Suharto and has

no power base of his own. He is a controversial figure without experience as a political leader. He is opposed by many groups with influence in Indonesia. Military leaders are not happy with his presidency; they accepted him only because it was Mr. Suharto's wish.

As a result, Mr. Habibie does not have the support needed to rally the Indonesian elite and to get people to take the bitter medicine of economic reform. Although there are some good economic managers in his cabinet, most of its members were well-known figures in the Suharto regime. The government thus lacks credibility.

Moreover, Mr. Habibie himself is not trusted by the financial markets because of his excessive spending on inefficient prestige projects while he was a cabinet minister under Mr. Suharto, and because of his unconventional ideas about economic policy.

If a general election is to be democratic, however, it will take at least a year to prepare. Laws that favored the ruling Golkar alliance and disadvantaged its challengers have to be rewritten. By the time this is done it will be too late to save the economy, which faces a dangerous meltdown in the next month or so.

That is why Indonesia should not for the only other constitutional alternative: the House of Representatives, or Parliament, should call a special session of the assembly within a month. It would elect a new president and vice president for a fixed term of two years with a specific mandate to revive the economy and hold general elections in line with the reforms expected by the public.

Indonesia has a range of leaders who would make capable presidents or vice presidents to carry out this task.

In the meantime, the unity of

the armed forces is critical. In a country as large and diverse as Indonesia, the armed forces are the guarantors of political stability as well as of national security.

Under their commander-in-chief General Wirantara, there is now a stronger basis for military unity after a period of uncertainty before and during the succession struggle. But the military must respond wisely to the pressures for reform if it wants to preserve its influence in the future.

The Indonesian people must never again take it for granted that their leaders will naturally undertake reforms. Government must be made accountable and subjected to public scrutiny.

Only with new and credible leaders will Indonesians accept the harsh medicine of austerity and structural change needed to overcome the economic crisis. And only with such leaders will investors and creditors provide the money that is critically important for the country's revival.

The writer is chairman of the supervisory board of the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Jakarta. He contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

Correction

Due to an editing error in an article on the Hong Kong elections (Opinion, May 26), the Democratic Alliance for the Betterment of Hong Kong was incorrectly identified as the pro-democracy camp. It is the pro-Beijing group.

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1898: Canard Leaked

BERLIN — The "Berliner Tageblatt" publishes the following alleged semi-official communication: "The German Government is preparing to enter an energetic protest against any cession of the Philippines to France. The Government is of the opinion that it would be preferable to share the Philippines between the Powers interested." It should be known that this communication is a "canard" intended to bring out the truth about the Franco-Spanish negotiations, which greatly occupy public opinion.

1948: 'World Citizen'

PARIS — The American Embassy in Paris confirmed that Gary Davis, New York actor and son of orchestra leader Meyer Davis, has renounced American citizenship to become a "citizen of the world." Davis was reported to be a disciple of a United World movement, of which the American poetess and art patron Mrs. Crosby is a moving spirit. Members of this group are given a special "United World passport" by Mrs. Crosby. Davis surrendered his passport, and thus all rights as a United States citizen.

1923: Red Campaign

GELSENKIRCHEN, Germany — The Communists are trying to starve the workers of the Ruhr into precipitating a social revolution, which, its instigators hope, will spread throughout



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OPINION/LETTERS

School Shootings Mask The Real Story of Crime

By James K. Glassman

WASHINGTON — Last Thursday, a skinny 15-year-old whose self-described hobbies included "sugared cereal" and "throwing rocks at cars," fired 51 shots into a crowded high school cafeteria in Oregon. Two students died and 22 were wounded. The suspect, Kipland Kinkel, also was accused of killing his parents.

Television broadcasts and newspapers were full of the story. President Bill Clinton used his Saturday radio address to decry the "changing culture that desensitizes our children to violence." He asserted that these schoolhouse shootings are more than isolated incidents.

So they seem. Since October, 14 teachers and students have been murdered.

Let us stipulate that these killings are sickening and that it would be an enormous benefit to humanity to prevent the

arrests declined 14 percent from 1994 to 1995 and 14 percent from 1995 to 1996. Mr. Clinton is going to have to think of a phenomenon other than video gone on to blame the shootings.

Here is one idea: the inordinate play these stories get in the press. Children like Kipland Kinkel are bombs waiting for detonation, and the media, by blaring their exploits on the front pages and the nightly news, may be helping to light the fuse. I am not in favor of suppression, but I am opposed to obsession, which is what we have now.

At a Harvard symposium recently, one panelist pointed out that local TV news shows import violent footage now that local criminals are not turning out enough products. (There were only 43 murders in Boston last year, the fewest since 1961.)

In an era of peace and prosperity, the press finds little to excite the imagination, and prey on the fears, of its audience. In such an atmosphere one choice would be to examine larger, long-range problems, such as how to fix Social Security. Another is to hew individual incidents in small towns in Oregon into national crises.

This is an especially irresponsible approach because most people practice a kind of social synecdoche — they believe that the part equals the whole, that a single shooting (or even four in a year) can mean that child murderers are rampant and that some new solution is required. The press consistently fails to put events into context, even when statistics show what is happening in the aggregate.

So what is the meaning of the schoolhouse murders? Frankly, not much. The meaning of the hysteria over them ... now, that is worth looking into.

Washington Post Writers Group

The press is blowing individual incidents into national crises.

shooting of a schoolchild from ever happening again. But let us also put these murders into perspective.

First, the truth about violence in America is that it is falling, not rising. In fact, the single biggest story since the fall of the Berlin Wall is the decline in serious crime. After climbing at a seemingly inexorable pace since the 1970s, crime has dropped — suddenly and broadly, and for reasons still unexplained.

From 1993 to 1996, the number of murders fell 20 percent, and just four days before the Oregon shootings, the FBI issued preliminary figures for 1997 that found both murders and robbery down 9 percent and overall crime off for the sixth straight year. Murders in New York City fell a stunning 22 percent in 1997; in Los Angeles, 20 percent.

"It's hard to think of a social trend of greater significance," Gordon Wilkin of *U.S. News & World Report* wrote last week. As crime rates have declined, cities — most significantly New York, where the murder rate is lower than in Kansas City, Missouri, and Charlotte, North Carolina — have revived. Burglary and car-theft rates are now higher in Britain, and lower than in America. Government, at last, is beginning to accomplish its most important function — to protect us so we can pursue happiness in our daily lives.

Second, while the killing of any young person is appalling, a sense of proportion is necessary. The United States has 38 million children between the ages of 10 and 17 and 20,000 secondary schools. In 1994, there were no school shootings in which more than one person was killed; last year, there were four; this year, two. In 1995, the year of the latest statistics, 319 children aged 10 to 14 were murdered; for people aged 70 to 74, the figure is 50 percent higher.

Again, the real story is the opposite of the portrait of chaos and anguish painted in the press. A new study by the National Bureau of Economic Research finds that young people are "getting happier" while "older Americans, by contrast, indicated little change in their degree of happiness."

You have to wonder about the claims of pop psychologists and of the president himself when he says, as he did Saturday, that the rising tide of murders and mayhem on TV, in movies and on video games is turning kids into killers. Indeed, U.S. News noted that juvenile murder

WASHINGTON — Some may think it unusual that the heads of a global development bank and an international conservation organization should make common cause to protect the world's forests. The interests of finance and ecology are more often seen as being in conflict. But the need to break free of such stereotypes is urgent. The world's forests are dying, and it is only by acting together that we can help save them.

Nearly two-thirds of the earth's original forest cover is gone, and what remains is disappearing at the rate of more than one acre per second. In the past three months alone, the Brazilian Amazon has lost forests covering an area the size of Belgium to fires set deliberately to clear land. Nearly all of Southeast Asia, meanwhile, remains cloaked in acrid smoke from forest fires.

The ecological cost of this destruction is devastating. Scientists estimate that about 100 species are driven into extinction every day, primarily through loss of their forest habitats. Many of these plant and animal species are critical not only to the earth's biodiversity but to specialized fields such as medicine.

A frog living in Peru produces a painkiller more powerful, but less addictive, than morphine; a flower growing in Madagascar is used in the treatment of leukemia. But forests are more than nature's pharmacies; they absorb carbon gases that create global warming.

Like the ecological costs, the economic costs of deforestation are astronomically high, running into the billions of dollars annually. In the end, the bur-

den of these costs falls most heavily on the poor of the developing world. Too often, conservation is depicted as a concern of the rich. This view is tragically shortsighted.

Economies cannot remain healthy unless the resources on which they depend are sustainably managed. True, rich countries can afford to spend more on conservation than poor ones. But economies that degrade their environments for short-term gain are rarely stable and never sustainable.

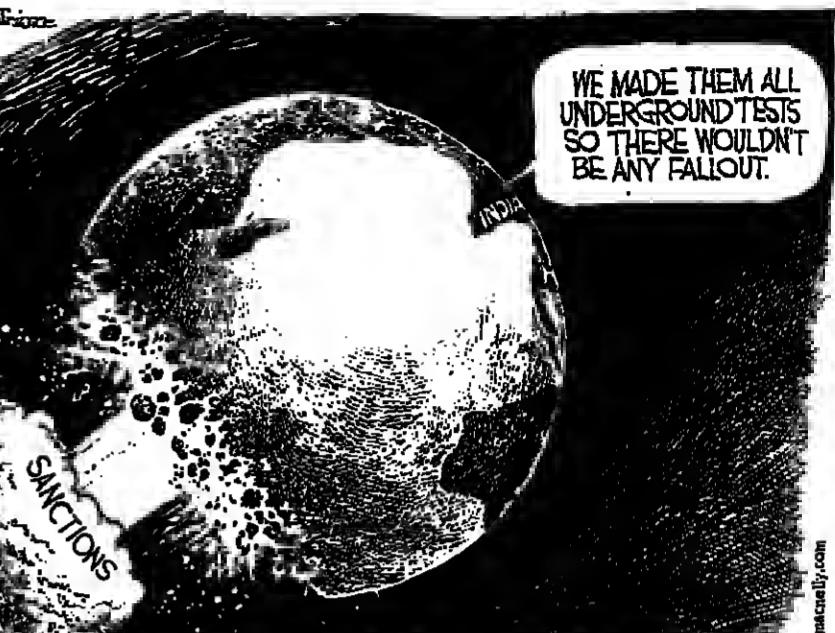
Nowhere is this more obvious than in our mismanagement of the world's forests. At the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro six years ago, the international community acknowledged the danger and committed itself to a more sustainable future. But that promise has not been kept. Forests are often called the lungs of the world for their role in helping to regulate the exchange of oxygen and carbon dioxide. Yet everywhere we look, from the rain forests of the Amazon to the boreal forests of North America, the lungs are gasping.

As leaders of organizations concerned about both the ecological and economic viability of forests, we believe we must do more to save them. Therefore, the World Bank and WWF have formed an alliance for the conservation and sustainable use of forests. This alliance has two objectives. Currently, only 6 percent of the world's forests are protected. We propose to increase that figure to at least 10 percent

by the year 2000. Second, we will work with countries, assisting them with our resources and our expertise, to put 500 million acres of forest under independent certification by 2005.

Twenty-one countries in addition to Brazil have pledged to meet our 10 percent target, and we will work to get similar commitments from others, helping them with both the science and the resources required to select and protect their forests.

By itself, however, this will not be



of color television sets brought in as "spares."

The Rajiv Gandhi years exorcised the disapproving morality that had kept conspicuous consumption in check. It became easier to flaunt wealth, which meant displaying a taste for Western luxuries.

The trend became more

marked under the economic liberalization that Prime Minister P. V. Narasimha Rao, himself a man of spartan simplicity, set off in 1991. I could not help wondering whether Mr. Vajpayee and his colleagues, then in the opposition, did not have a point in

demanding that foreign investment should be confined to computer chips, leaving potato chips to domestic makers.

The prospect of a locally made Mercedes-Benz sedan that costs 142 times the average per capita income of \$350 a year heightens the iniquitous contrast between rich and poor. Economists will say this is only a short-term effect, but with 30 percent of India's 690 million people below the poverty line, even the short term can be a very long time.

Of course, foreign sanctions will cause hardship and set

back the thrust for modernization. But they might turn out to be a blessing in disguise if, by forcing Indians to rethink priorities and fine-tune growth strategies, they lead to the rehabilitation of those two Nehruvian ideals — self-reliance and austerity — that have disappeared from the national vocabulary.

The writer, a former editor of *The Statesman* in India, is an editorial consultant with *The Straits Times* in Singapore. He contributed this column to the *International Herald Tribune*.

Making Common Cause: Seeing the Forest for the Trees

By James D. Wolfensohn and Kathryn S. Fuller

WASHINGTON — Some may think it unusual that the heads of a global development bank and an international conservation organization should make common cause to protect the world's forests. The interests of finance and ecology are more often seen as being in conflict. But the need to break free of such stereotypes is urgent. The world's forests are dying, and it is only by acting together that we can help save them.

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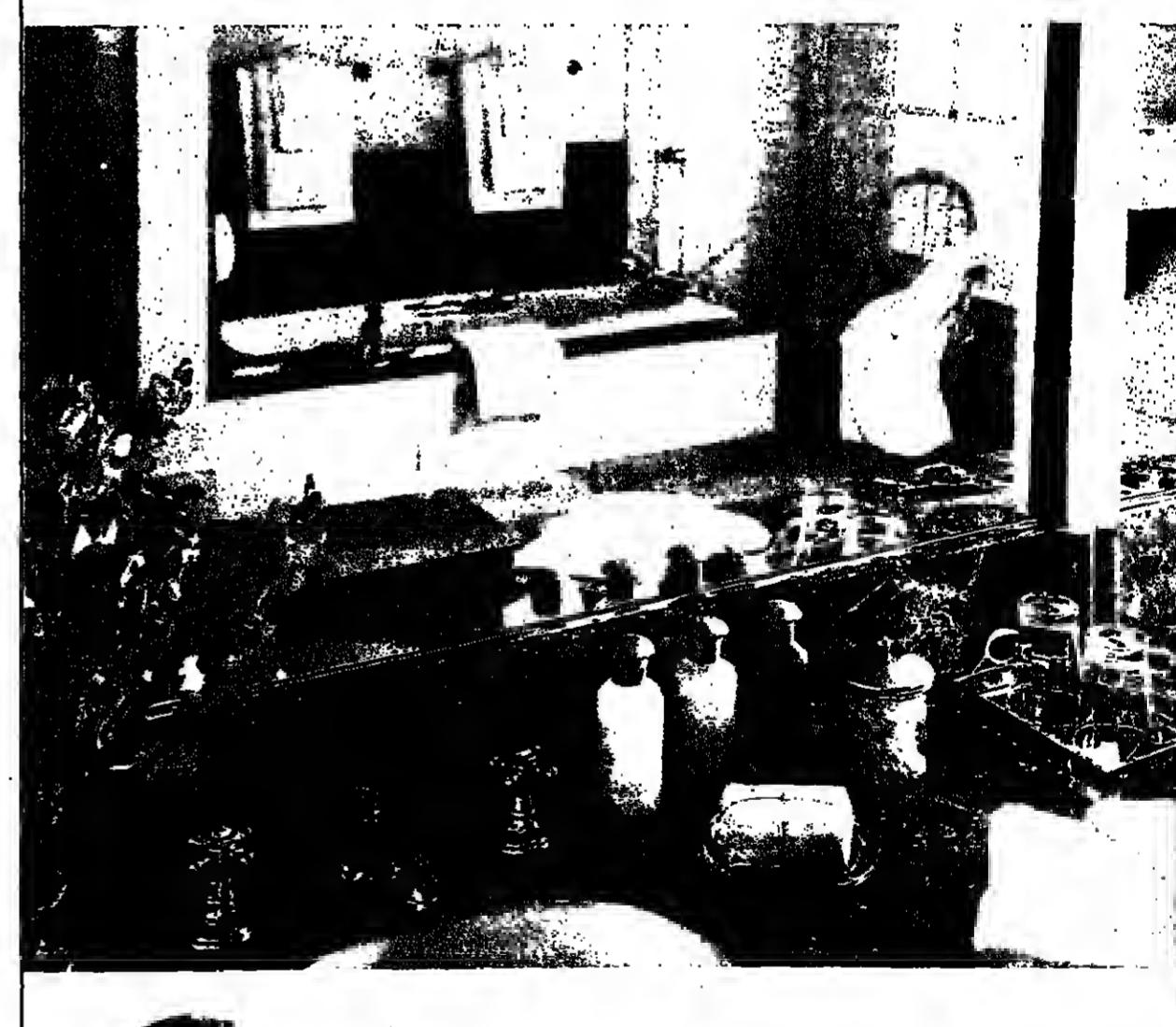
enough. We also must reform forest-management policies and make conservation investments involving all levels of society. Governments must be encouraged not only to create more ecologically representative protected areas but also to surround them with sustainably managed buffer zones. Verifying sustainable management through independent, third-party certification can be an invaluable means toward this end.

Offering consumers the choice of buying "good wood" — products certified as having come from responsibly managed forests — can harness market demand to the drive for sustainable forestry.

James D. Wolfensohn is president of the World Bank. Kathryn S. Fuller is president of the World Wildlife Fund-U.S. They contributed this column to The Washington Post.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The State of Israel

Regarding "Lamenting a Lost Zion at 50" (Meanwhile, May 19) by Helen Moto:

The author says the Jewish state "chose to define itself as a 'parochial' nation-state and a half-century of violence." On the contrary, Israel defined itself as a state that "will ensure complete equality of social and political rights to all its inhabitants irrespective of religion, race or sex" — principles still upheld by 90 percent of Israelis. The pejorative characterization of "parochial" applies to the religious extremists, no more

than 10 percent of Israelis.

It is true that Israel has suffered 50 years of intermittent violence. This calamity has not been "bred" by Israel but resulted from the rejection by the entire Arab world of the United Nations partition resolution of Nov. 29, 1947.

True, 50 years of wars and violence have brutalized both Arabs and Israelis. No doubt many Arabs, when detained on suspicion of acts of terror, are being treated roughly. But only Egypt and Jordan have made peace with the Jewish state, which accounts for Israel's 90 percent of Israelis. The pejorative characterization of "parochial" applies to the religious extremists, no more

A fair report on the treatment of Arabs in Israel should have mentioned the employment of Arabs in the civil service, their unhindered right of political organization, representation in Israel's legislature and the recent nomination of an Arab judge to Israel's Supreme Court. Nothing comparable is imaginable for non-Muslim minorities in the entire Arab world.

JOSHUA O. HABERMAN
Washington

The writer is senior rabbi of the Washington Hebrew Congregation.

Letters to the Editor

China

Regarding "China's

By CONNIE LEE / Los Angeles Times Syndicate

China's

By CONNIE LEE / Los Angeles Times Syndicate

China's

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Didier Levallet, left: "In France there is a strong tradition that the state has a responsibility to support the arts."

France's 'Jacobin' Jazz Orchestra

By Mike Zwerin
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — In the May issue of *Down Beat* magazine, Wynton Marsalis "analyzes the positive aspects" of his "favorite trumpeters," all of whom turn out to live, metaphorically speaking, on the same block.

They all play with the same aesthetic and follow pretty much the same rules. All seven are American, Marsalis knows them all: he has played with most of them and they play more or less like he does.

When you have his kind of power it's natural to build up people you are close to, but there are limits. How about a Parisian composer being asked to choose his favorite composers and somehow they all turn out to be Parisian? The town that is "so hip they named it twice: New York, New York" should be confident enough not to be provincial. True, some of these trumpeters may not live in New York, but most do and Marsalis certainly does. New York is where they make their mark. But this is not the way of a truly Big Apple.

The global village is already here. Nothing new about it. Creative music is made everywhere. Add it up, don't slice it off. And for people who take the category "world music" seriously, it's already here, too. It's called jazz and it borrows from everywhere.

Everywhere you go in the developed world you find jazz trumpet players with "positive aspects" worthy of praise. Enrico Rava and Paolo Fresu in Italy, Tomasz Stanko in Warsaw, Alexandre Sipiagin commuting between Moscow and Brooklyn, Franco Ambrosetti in Lugano, Switzerland.

They are not superstars, but neither are all of those picked by Marsalis. Each of the above could hold his own with just about anybody, they influence others in their own territories and they are in demand there. Their only "problem" is that they have the bad luck of being born in and the poor judgment of living in the "wrong" place. That is the view from the Apple.

This brings us to a very odd place indeed. Born in Barbados, Harry Beckett, a Londoner, plays the trumpet with L'Or-

chestre National de Jazz in France. It is to the credit of the French that they have summoned him from across the Channel to play, as it were, under their colors.

The orchestra is sponsored by the state to demonstrate how good the French are at playing music made in America. "In France there is a very strong tradition that the state has a responsibility to support the arts," said the bassist Didier Levallet, the orchestra's leader, finding himself on the defensive.

"This is not true in Britain, not in Germany."

"What a French ideal!" Americans will exclaim as Levallet, who has a "global vision of jazz," describes the principle behind the orchestra as "Jacobin." Only in France — a Jacobin jazz band. The state pays each player a salary. They average something like \$2,500 a month, eight months a year. This includes health insurance, sick leave, retirement and so on. The other four months they are free to collect unemployment.

They can also take gigs of their own, although the orchestra has first call. The state subsidy covers 66 percent of the overhead. The rest comes from ticket and record sales and specific grants, both public and private.

The jazz orchestra is an official representative of French culture. "National" implies a qualitative guarantee. It is respected, according to Levallet, even by French classical musicians who you think might consider it competition.

Jazz subsidies, however, are not nearly as serious as those for classical music.

Americans have always had trouble appreciating the quality of the music they invented and gave to the world," Levallet said. "So you can imagine how much trouble they have accepting a French version of it. The orchestra has never played in the states. It will never happen. I do not think the American public is very interested in French jazz." A hint of a smile accompanies the understatement.

The orchestra has exciting soloists, tight ensembles, and it swings. If the members Americanized their names, they could slip past the sentinels at the gates of hip and work for \$40 a night one night a week like any other big band playing the international language in New York. At the very least, that Lang got more interested in rock."

has a monopoly on this music. Culture Minister Jack Lang announced the formation of the orchestra at what he termed his "first jazz press conference" in January 1986. Just what this country needs, people thought — more functionaries, another bureaucracy.

But Lang went on to say: "We have tried to build a system of constant change within a permanent structure. It's an adventure."

The orchestra changes both leaders and personnel every two or three years. So, in fact, they are not functionaries.

On the contrary, renewal is built-in. There is a new show every three years at most. The players and original music reflect the personality of each chief. Levallet has been leading the sixth version of the orchestra for almost a year.

There is no rule specifying the necessity, but all the leaders so far have been French. Sidemen, however, have included the Americans Aaron Scott (McCoy Tyner's drummer), Glenn Ferris on trombone and the saxophonist Bobby Rangell. Two Britons, Harry Beckett and Chris Biscoe (reeds), are in the current lineup, as is the Belgian trombonist Phil Abraham.

LEVALLET considers bureaucratic detail a reasonable price to pay for the luxury of having a world-class band at his disposal to rehearse and record his own music and his arrangements of other people's music, and to perform it around the world.

This year alone, the jazz orchestra will have performed in Ukraine, Finland, Lithuania, Britain, Spain, Turkey, Portugal and France. A musician in Kiev told Levallet, "We want to live the way this orchestra sounds." Levallet calls combining cultural conditions "my thing." He added, "I like to stress the similarities rather than the differences between styles."

He was present at the meeting in 1985 where the decision was made to form the jazz orchestra. "The idea was sold to Jack Lang based on the illusion that jazz would pay off politically, that it would attract the votes of young people," Levallet said, laughing at the irony.

"After that, I have the impression that Lang got more interested in rock."

By David Stevens
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — After almost a decade of playing catch-up with the standard repertoire, the Opera Bastille has finally been endowed with its first world premiere: Philippe Fénelon's "Salammbô," in a solid and well-received production.

The 45-year-old French composer has his dramatic foot in the 19th century and his musical one in the 20th in this adaptation of Flaubert's exotically colored novel of power politics and purple passion in the crumbling social structure of ancient Carthage.

There is a mixture here of old wine in new bottles and new wine in old, but Fénelon and his librettist, Jean-Yves Masson, have done a shrewd job of creating a work that is traditional in structure but, while speaking with a relatively modern orchestral voice, enriched by a large body of percussion and

an electronic tape used at dramatically specific moments. The novel is rich in description and atmosphere, but short on dialogue and characterization. Masson's libretto strengthens the characters' profiles, while the composer gives them eminently singable lines.

It is the third century B.C. and Carthage is in a state of crisis. The mercenaries hired by Hamilcar are grumpy about not being paid. Two of the leaders, Matho and Narr Havas, become rivals for power and for the love of Salammbo, Hamilcar's daughter and leader of a peaceful cult. Matho wins her favors, but it ends badly for them anyway.

Francesca Zambello, aided by Robert Israel's monumental, two-level setting and Marie-Jeanne Leccia's colorful costumes, does a good job of clarifying the sometimes confusing action and the many social, ethnic and political groups involved.

The American mezzo soprano Emily Golden was outstanding in the title role.

strong dramatically and vocally and investing her part with more nuance than it really has. Gidon Saks was a powerful Hamilcar, Patrick Raftery (Matho) and Stephen O'Mara (Narr Havas) were the two tenor rivals, and LeRoy Villareal was the over-ambitious slave Spedius.

THE highly adventurous Kronos Quartet, now on a tour to celebrate 25 years of expanding the string-quartet literature, gave three concerts at the Théâtre de la Ville. One was made up largely of arrangements ranging from Guillaume de Machaut and Thomas Tallis to such idiosyncratic moderns as Henryk Gorecki, John Cage and Astor Piazzolla.

Most impressive, however, was the concert that concentrated on 20th-century classics, including Berg's "Lyric Suite," Webern's Opus 9 Bagatelles and Bartók's Quartet No. 3, along with George Crumb's "Black Angels," a theatrical work the group has made its own.



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Solution to Puzzle of May 26

ACROSS

1. Problem in the defense lines

5. Mountain dew producer

10. Theories

14. On — with (equation)

15. Luffy root

16. Action of "Deathtrap"

17. First name in years

18. French and Indian War battle site

20. Much Ado About Nothing" first

21. Galivant

23. Article in France-Sor

24. Clinton, e.g., before being Pres

25. Igneous rock constituent

27. Grand Canyon

28. Equator

31. It's Big, at the equator

32. Pueblo material

33. With competence

35. Cause to gnawce

36. Standard partner

40. — Man

41. Answers (1962 film)

41. Penélope

42. Composer

42. "Silly" question

43. Recognize

44. Part of LEM

45. Open, e.g., on a phone

47. Opened, as a door

48. "The Dating Game"

49. Contestant

50. Mentalist Geller

51. One doubled

52. St. Louis storm with the voice of Paul Fusco

53. Wild asses

54. Newfoundland's capital

55. Where Fars is

56. Shells and such

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INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE,
WEDNESDAY, MAY 27, 1998
PAGE 13

STAGE/ENTERTAINMENT



"Sweet Charity," at the Victoria Palace, is surrounded by the ghosts of too many Broadway greats.

A Murky 'Nabokov's Gloves'

But at the Jermyn, a Glorious Musical Mockery

By Sheridan Morley
International Herald Tribune

LONDON — The title of Peter Moffat's new play at Hampstead, "Nabokov's Gloves," needs a little explaining. It appears, though this is only very tenuously covered by the play itself, that the author of "Lolita" was also an eager butterfly collector who took the usual precaution of covering his hands before dealing with his favorite creatures.

We are perhaps meant to understand from this that people as well as butterflies are fragile but interesting if examined under microscopic conditions.

Certainly the lawyers gathered around the table in Moffat's play are shakily enough in their own skins, but it is significant that before this stage premiere, the play should have received an award for "new writing" by a television station.

"Nabokov's Gloves" resembles nothing more closely than one of those television pilots that rapidly introduces one to a whole gang of neighbors or doctors or, yes, lawyers whose lives and problems we are to follow in the weeks ahead. But with a stage play there are no weeks ahead, so Moffat has to race through half a dozen case histories in a brisk couple of hours.

We meet Nick (a dour Greg Wise, who, despite being married to a winsomely winsome doctor (Niamh Cusack) falls catastrophically in love with one of his clients, a dour heroin addict and dealer who might just possibly have been caught up in parental murder.

As if that weren't enough, we also get the wise older clerk of the chambers (David Cardy, memorably complaining that his gazpacho is cold) and Beatie Edney as Darling, yet another career lawyer turned so cynical that you wonder why the meal she is forever cooking hasn't curdled in her own despair. True, she has a wonderful recipe that involves stuffing a chicken with a beer can refilled with white wine, a truly stomach-churning sight, but beyond that Moffat seems fatally undecided whether he is writing a courtroom thriller, an attack on the cynical and self-serving evasions of the legal profession or a loving account of some truly wounded souls clinging to each other for comfort outside the Inns of Court.

Although the director Ian Brown does what he can to tie up all the loose ends, there are rather too many of them left over.

In a summer already alive with the sound of old musicals, "Sweet Charity," the greatest of all Cy Coleman's Broadway hits, comes back to us at the

Victoria Palace looking all of its 30 years and then some.

There is nothing much wrong with this revival that couldn't be solved by the injection of several million dollars and an almost entirely new cast. The difficulty is that the show is already surrounded by the ghosts of such one-time Broadway greats as Bob Fosse, Gwen Verdon, Juliet Prowse and, on film, Shirley MacLaine and Sammi Davis Jr. Those are almost impossible memories to beat, and though Bonnie Langford has at last thrown off her Shirley Temple problems to become an infinitely hard-working, talented and feisty Charity, every other expense on the show has been spared with the result that the rest of the company seems not so much undercast as barely cast at all.

In a tacky production that looks as if it has been on the road for years instead of weeks, a crucial lesson has never been understood: "Sweet Charity" may be set in and around a tawdry nightclub, but it needs to look like a million dollars. Here everything from the scenery to the choreography to the lighting looks returned from the pawnshop unsold.

This is definitely amateur night, with only Langford and Mark Wynter, as the Mastroianni-like lover, giving anything more than barely adequate performances; everything that should be brisk and glib and cynical is slow and tired and as worn out already as the girls in search of their Big Spender.

As for the *Rhythm of Life*, it seems to have been halted altogether. A once-great showstopper now signals to stop a show that has already died of its own inertia and underfunding on the long road from Bromley, where it opened and should have closed.

MUCH better news, however, at the tiny Jermyn Street Theatre, where John Meyer's "The Betrayal of Nori Blake" is a wonderful addition to that long tradition of (usually off-Broadway) musical mockeries, shows like "Dames at Sea" and "Little Mary Sunshine" that managed simultaneously to celebrate and parody certain genres of old Hollywood movies.

This time we are in the 1946 world of Lana Turner and Barbara Stanwyck movies, about mysterious but magnificently glamorous women caught up in murder plots of incredible complexity. As author, composer and lyricist, Meyer has come up with a masterly parody of all that and more, a score that harks back to Miklos Rosza and Franz Waxman. The actor Nickolas Grace, meanwhile, has

directed an amazingly nimble production making the best use I have ever seen of the cramped Jermyn Street stage.

As the sisters, Claire Moore (the good) and Issy Van Randwyck (the bad) are just wonderful, while around them Michael Mateus, Andrew Wadsworth, John Levin and Ann Wakefield make up an equally agile cast, all of whom must have spent hours watching midnight re-runs of all the movies of this very precise postwar time to come up with such deadly accurate and wickedly mocking performances. This show clearly has a strong future off-Broadway; but having opened over here first for a change, I just hope it stays around long enough to catch the rest of us old movie freaks.

A couple of seasons ago off-Broadway, "Rent" jolted the American musical back to some kind of shaky life after a decade of almost nothing but London imports. It won countless awards for its creator, Jonathan Larson, including the Pulitzer, though tragically he never lived to receive any of them, dying at 35 just before his show went into preview.

Something about his sudden death gave "Rent" almost mythic status, and it is still selling out all over America. Seen now at the Shaftesbury, however, it comes up looking like "Hair" for the brain-dead, a musical already totally overtaken by such later Broadway hits as "The Life" and "Ragtime."

Sure there is a lot of noise and energy here, but the work comes from nowhere and goes nowhere very slowly. There are, after the interval, a couple of good songs, but in hijacking the plot of "La Boheme" and ramming into the 1990s America of music videos and electronic amplification, Larson has somehow failed to add anything to the original creation.

You have only to think of the way in which Boubil and Schonberg took "Madama Bumby" and rebuilt it for the Vietnam War as "Miss Saigon" to judge the extent of the failure here. "Rent" is at once noisy and very hard to bear, and its parts never add up to anything whole.

As if terrified of giving his audience time to think, the director Michel Greif moves the show at such a pace that you never really get to care about any of the downtown loft-squatting group of Manhattan dropouts trying to raise the rent of the title. The story line is ramshackle, the show itself hopelessly fragmented, and yet there remain some isolated moments of a yearning, tentative, lyrical love that offer glimpses of the show Larson might one day have written had he lived.

A Rare Chance For Meyerbeer But 'Le Prophete' Falls Short

By George W. Loomis
International Herald Tribune

VENNA — It's high time that an opera by Giacomo Meyerbeer scored a modern success comparable to those they routinely achieved in the 19th century.

In a perfect world, this would have happened here last week, when the Staatsoper's new production of "Le Prophete," crowned an unprecedented tribute this season to the composer's specialty — that elaborate, action-packed genre known as French grand opera.

Samples by Verdi ("Les Vepres Siciliennes") and Wagner ("Rienzi," a French grand opera in all but language and national origin) had already been displayed. The latest venture boasted Placido Domingo in the central role of Jean of Leyden, the false prophet engendered by the Anabaptist revolt in 16th-century Germany.

The opera can make for a pleasurable evening and did just that on Thursday. But only when a production takes Meyerbeer's stage craft at face value and proves it can work will his operas surmount the bitter criticism, born of anti-Semitism, that has long dogged their reputation.

Wagner profited from Meyerbeer artistically but turned on him famously in the odious essay "Judaism in Music." "Effects without causes" was his catch-phrase for Meyerbeer and it stuck. Effects there are, and spectacular ones to be sure, but Meyerbeer and his librettist, Eugene Scribe planned their works with meticulous care.

The music of "Le Prophete" has much surface appeal but also has psychological depth, most of all in its portrayal of Jean, the well-meaning tavern-keeper whose experience with feudal tyranny made him easy prey for the Anabaptists, and his relationship with his mother, Fides.

Meyerbeer treats Jean sympathetically, but he was no champion of the underdog. "Le Prophete" is more about the character. But one questioned the wisdom of restoring this music when the conductor Marcello Vionti cut a fair bit of what Meyerbeer retained.

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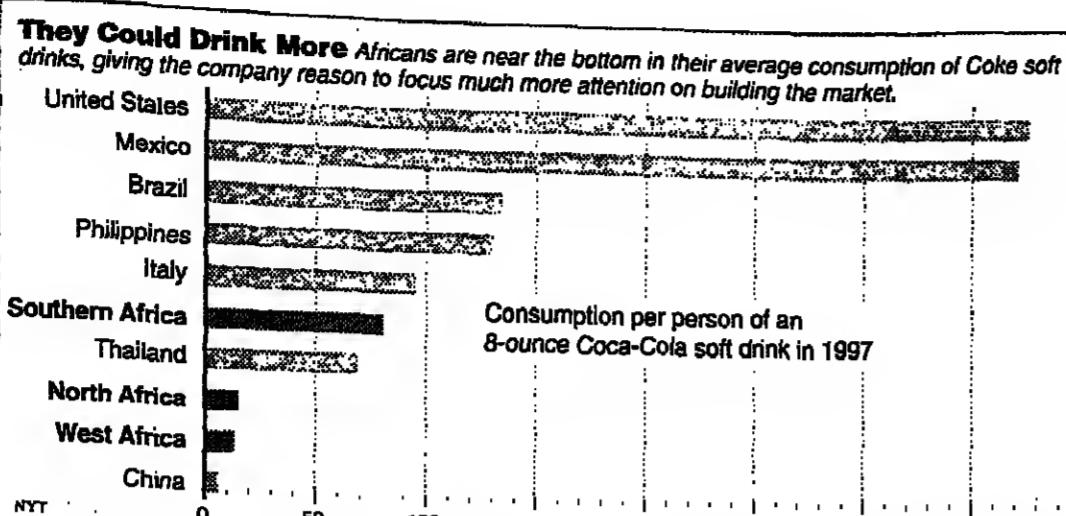
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WEDNESDAY, MAY 27, 1998

PAGE 15

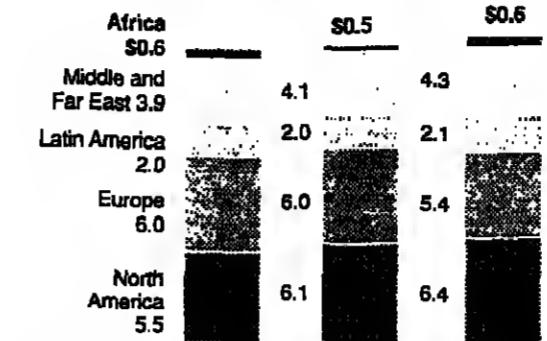
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Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

shares in Fortis AG, its Belgian arm, for every three Generale Bank shares it does not own. Fortis declined to comment on its next move before studying the ABN-AMRO bid.

Generale Bank's biggest shareholder, Societe Generale de Belgique SA, or SGB, which has already agreed to transfer its 29.2 percent stake to Fortis, said the deal was final.

"Our sale is definitive to Fortis AG," an SGB spokesman, Guy Dellicour said. "The ABN-AMRO bid will certainly not be looked at."

But Jan Kalf, the chairman of ABN-AMRO, which was spurned in its attempts to buy Compagnie Financiere de CIC of France in April, a gateway to France and larger international operations as Europe prepares for monetary union next year.

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NYSE

Tuesday's 4 P.M. Close

Tuesday 3-4 P.M. Close
The 2,600 most traded stocks of the day.
Nationwide prices not reflecting late trades elsewhere.

12 Month		Stock	Div Yld	PE	SIS	100s High	Low	Latest Ctrg
High	Low							

Continued on Page 2

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Ginandjar Kartasasmita, left, with Boediono, the state planning minister, before the first meeting of the new cabinet in Jakarta.

Jakarta's Feisty Economic 'Czar'

Ginandjar, a Suharto Veteran, Capitalizes on Critical Role

Bloomberg News

JAKARTA — Ginandjar Kartasasmita, the economic "czar" of Indonesia, laid 23 years of government service on the line when he strode into President Suharto's office early last week and told the 76-year-old leader to step down.

Granted, he was joining a chorus of such calls. But Mr. Suharto, who had run the world's fourth most populous country like a fiefdom for 32 years, was not used to underlings telling him what to do.

"We became convinced that nothing could be done until Suharto agreed to step down," Mr. Ginandjar said. "We could not have a maximum impact in fixing the economy if political turmoil" continued. Mr. Ginandjar and nine other ministers tendered their resignations.

The gamble paid off. The next morning, Mr. Suharto resigned and named B.J. Habibie to replace him. Although Mr. Ginandjar was re-

tained by Mr. Habibie as coordinating minister for the economy, the battle is not over yet for the former air force officer.

Mr. Ginandjar says early elections are crucial to restoring international and domestic confidence in the country, dashing his new boss's hopes of staying on the job until the end of the current term in 2003.

Mr. Habibie said through a spokesman Monday that he would move "quickly" to call for new elections. Analysts said Mr. Ginandjar's call for elections — and the implicit threat that he would be willing to resign again if it was not heeded — made Mr. Habibie's decision easier.

That Mr. Ginandjar could speak his mind with Mr. Suharto and that he is able to do it again with Mr. Habibie is a measure of how much Indonesia has changed since the devaluation of the rupiah in August. It is also a reflection of the credibility

Mr. Ginandjar has garnered in economic circles. For a government whose economic policies have lost international trust, he suddenly appears indispensable.

"We need Ginandjar to be there now," said Mohammad Sadli, a former government minister and economist.

As the point man in negotiations with the International Monetary Fund on the latest terms attached to Indonesia's \$43 billion bailout, Mr. Ginandjar cultivated an easy-access manner that endeared him to foreign investors. With his wire-rimmed glasses and a penchant for natty, well-tailored suits, he could be mistaken for one of them.

The negotiations, and his ability to be part of the government while distancing himself from its more unsavory elements, has also raised his profile at home. The soft-spoken 58-year-old says he is interested only in economic recovery and that politics is not his game. Those who know him well, though, say he would not mind a shot at Mr. Habibie's seat himself.

Whatever his ambitions, Mr. Ginandjar has his job cut out for him. Some fear there is little that can be done to change the grim facts of Indonesia's economy. Gross domestic product is expected to contract by at least 10 percent this year as inflation exceeds 50 percent and unemployment explodes. The \$78.2 billion in foreign debt held by corporate Indonesia has left most large companies insolvent.

All that was known before rioting and looting swept Jakarta two weeks ago — the capital's worst violence in 30 years.

Mr. Ginandjar will now have to lure investors back to the wreckage of what not long ago was one of Southeast Asia's hottest economies, and he will share the blame if growth continues to languish.

The forecast sent Taiwan Semiconductor's stock tumbling 4 percent, to 132 Taiwan dollars (\$3.93), and raised concerns about Taiwan's entire technology industry.

The benchmark stock index closed down 1.6 percent. The electronics subindex tumbled 4.9 percent and accounted for most of the main index's fall.

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Mr. Copley has settled trades with as many as 15 counterparties, none of which were from Indonesia.

Making the liquidation process difficult is the lack of a clear precedent. Three years ago, when Burings PLC went bankrupt because of derivatives losses, the Bank of England guaranteed its derivatives losses until the bank was sold to ING Groep NV. In that case, creditors only had a nervous couple of weeks before their derivatives contracts were settled by ING Barings, Mr. Copley said.

"It isn't going to get any better for them with Peregrine," he said.

Price Waterhouse will meet with creditors of Peregrine Derivatives Ltd. on June 10, those of Peregrine Fixed Income Ltd. on June 11 and creditors of Peregrine Investments Holdings Ltd. on June 12. All the meetings will be in Hong Kong.

Price Waterhouse cannot sell any of Peregrine's debt or assets yet because it is still only the provisional liquidator, Mr. Copley said. The first item on the agenda of the creditors' meeting will be to appoint the firm as the formal liquidator.

The computer-chip maker, which accounts for more than 5 percent of the benchmark Taiwan Stock Exchange Index and is the island's largest company by market value, expects its gross margins to fall to a record low of 25 percent this year from 40 percent in 1997, said Huang Yen-chun, a vice president.

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NASDAO

Tuesday's 4 P.M.
The 1,000 most traded National Market securities
in terms of dollar value, updated twice a year.

NYSE

Tuesday's 4 P.M. Close
(Continued)

Stock	Div	Yld	PE	Sig.	52- High	52- Low	52- Latest	Chg%	Stock	Div	Yld	PE	Sig.	52- High	52- Low	52- Latest	Chg%			
TEAUF	1.24	10.1	9	780	124%	124	124	+0%	374	140	UkrRanOil	n	-	19	1403	35%	34	-354+1%		
TempG	.49	8.3	8	765	74%	74	74	+0%	824	326	US Almyr	n	19	9753	69%	574	-574+1%			
TempG	.49	8.3	8	2258	74%	74	74	+0%	434	240	US Bapo	c	70	1.8	3411	472	304	-304+1%		
TempG	1.95	15.1	9	792	264%	264	264	+0%	420	258	US Filter	n	-	10	1171	472	329	-329+1%		
TempG	1.95	15.1	9	1020	264%	264	264	+0%	294	258	US Filter	n	-	10	1171	472	329	-329+1%		
TEVA	4.2	2.0	2.9	19	4084	474%	254	-254	-5%	404	234	US Meds	n	20	19	153	474	28	-28+1%	
TEVA	4.2	2.0	2.9	20	258	258%	254	-254	-5%	404	234	US Sun	n	14	3423	344	374	-374+1%		
Telex	3.40	4.8	15	112	225%	254	254	+0%	1004	644	USTech	c	144	15	500	500	500	-500+1%		
Terex	1.00	1.0	15	145	57%	57	57	+0%	194	16	UWR	n	52	52	208	164	164	-164+1%		
Terex	1.00	1.0	15	20	195	224%	204	-204	-1%	46	16	UWR	n	15	12	234	134	124	-124+1%	
Terex	1.00	1.0	15	36	484	314%	309	-309	-1%	217	174	UWR	n	1.12	1.11	19	508	264%	-354+1%	
Terex	1.00	1.0	15	40	384	189%	104	-104	-1%	217	174	UWR	n	1.12	1.11	19	840	244%	-244+1%	
Terex	1.00	1.0	15	24	10	1003	304%	254	-254	-1%	594	374	UWR	n	26	26	1033	534	329	-329+1%
Terex	1.00	1.0	15	36	301	199%	254	-254	-1%	46	17	UWR	n	-	12	1171	472	374	-374+1%	
Terex	1.00	1.0	15	40	384	189%	104	-104	-1%	46	17	UWR	n	-	12	1171	472	374	-374+1%	
Terex	1.00	1.0	15	40	479	60%	59	-59	-1%	104	16	UWR	n	80	2.2	12	748	244%	-224+1%	
Terex	1.00	1.0	15	40	544	55%	544	-544	+0%	394	24	UWR	n	14	12	748	244%	-224+1%		
Textile	2.00	3.7	15	161	254%	254	254	+0%	394	24	UWR	n	1.80	5.1	16	1045	35%	349	-349+1%	
Textile	2.00	3.7	15	66	161	254%	254	-254	-1%	394	24	UWR	n	1.80	5.1	16	1045	35%	349	-349+1%
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International Herald Tribune SPORTS

WEDNESDAY, MAY 27, 1998

PAGE 22

WORLD ROUNDUP

Fiji Tops Scotland

RUGBY UNION Fiji, led by Fero Lasagavibau, beat Scotland for the first time on Tuesday, demolishing the visitors, 51-26, in the teams' rugby test at the National Stadium in Suva, Fiji.

Scotland's defeat cast further doubt over its ability to compete with Australia, the main focus of its eight-game tour to the Pacific region.

"Turnovers and ball retention in certain positions were very poor," said the Scottish coach, Jim Telfer. "We played very flat behind the scrum and never once tested the fullback under the high ball. We will have to think of ways of varying our game."

The Fiji coach, Brad Johnstone, said his team could play better and would need to against France, which it plays in June.

Fiji led, 13-12, at halftime but turned on its power in the second half, finishing with seven tries to two. (AP)

Cipollini Triumphs Again

CYCLING Mario Cipollini captured the 10th leg of the Tour of Italy on Tuesday for his fourth stage victory in six days.

The 31-year-old Tuscan edged Silvio Martinello and Endrio Leoni at the finish line in the southern town of Macerata.

It was Martinello's fourth second-place finish this year, three of which have been behind Cipollini.

Alex Zulle of Switzerland retained the pink jersey of the overall leader, five seconds ahead of the runner-up, Michele Bartoli of Italy. Zulle finished in the same time as the winner, following a mostly flat ride which produced the eighth crowded group sprint in ten stages.

Cipollini, taking a quick revenge for his loss to Glenn Magnusson of Sweden in Monday's leg, completed the 212-kilometer (131-mile) distance from Vasto to Macerata in five hours, 10 minutes and 43 seconds. (AP)

Sonics Fire Karl as Coach

BASKETBALL George Karl was fired Tuesday as coach of the Seattle SuperSonics, two weeks after his team was eliminated in the second round of the NBA playoffs.

The SuperSonics called an afternoon news conference to announce that Karl's contract would not be renewed, said a team source, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Karl, who was paid \$3.2 million this season, coached the Sonics for 6½ seasons and had the best winning percentage, .719, in the club's regular-season history. He got the Sonics to the playoffs in all seven of his seasons in Seattle.

It was the third time the former American Basketball Association player has been fired as a coach. He was let go by Cleveland in 1986 and by Golden State two years later.

He took over in Seattle in 1992, leaving a job with a Spanish club to replace K. C. Jones.

Karl is expected to be pursued by other NBA teams. (AP)

Day of Upsets at Roland Garros

2d-Seeded Korda Falls to Zabaleta, and Agassi Is Defeated by Safin

By Christopher Clarey
International Herald Tribune

men from the boys, even at the Grand Slam events.

Last year at Roland Garros, Filip Dewulf of Belgium, another qualifier, reached the semifinals and, Gustavo Kuerten, then ranked 66th, went on to win the tournament. With training techniques becoming more universal and the financial rewards increasing, the number of players capable of winning best-of-five set matches is on the rise. It's not just the technical barriers that are falling; the psychological barriers are, too.

How else to explain the sangfroid that Safin and Zabaleta displayed Tuesday? After losing the fourth set, Safin calmly

THE FRENCH OPEN

played a brilliant game to break Agassi and kept scrambling and rifling explosive serves and forehands the rest of the way to win, 5-7, 7-5, 6-2, 3-6, 6-2.

Zabaleta, a former world junior champion who missed four months last season with a shoulder injury, lost the third and fourth sets but managed to regain momentum and win, 6-0, 6-2, 3-6, 4-6, 6-3.

When the 213th-ranked Argentine finished off his biggest victory with a service winner, he gave Korda's hand a cursory shake, sprinted to the stands and embraced his supporters. He later pulled on an Argentinian soccer jersey and ran back to court to exult some more.

"I belong to the River Plate club in Argentina, and I'm using this shirt because it was a present from a friend of mine," he said. "I thought it was a good connection with my country."

Safin was born in his country 18 years ago, but after a Swiss bank agreed to sponsor him four years ago, he moved to Valencia, Spain, where he now has a Spanish coach and trades forehands and jibes with the locals.

His mother is a tennis coach and was a good enough player to compete in the junior version of this event. His father is the director of a tennis club in Moscow.

Wednesday's Top Matches

Nicolas Kiefer vs. Thomas Muster
The battle of the blondes, but only Muster is a real one. Kiefer is 20 with a bright future; Muster is 30 with a bright past, although he looked and sounded familiar on Monday.

Venus Williams (8) vs. Ai Sugiyama Venus at her best should keep Sugiyama from rising, but an off-day on clay means Japan's best could knock her out of orbit.

Magnus Norman vs. Wayne Ferreira Who cares if it's on Court 9. Norman beat Sampras here last year; Ferreira is the only man to beat Rios on clay this year.

International Herald Tribune
LONDON — The world of instant communications may be as indigestible as fast foods to the McDonald's for their fill.

Millions more see those advertisements than listen to a lady called Sue Ready, who, as England's official team nutritionist, said last weekend: "I would rather the players weren't eating burgers. I've seen Alan's car outside McDonald's more than once — but I suppose he might just be buying them for his kids."

She wishes. It is a tough job, defending France's gastronomic reputation, and it takes a tough cookie to tackle the eating habits of English soccer players.

Ms. Ready prepares the "Eat to Win" diet for the England team and is aghast at the story, rooted out by the rapacious English tabloid press, concerning Paul Gascoigne tucking into a kebab.

"Kebabs are just not good for a footballer," she says. "I know it wasn't the day before a game, but it takes about six days for a kebab to get out of your system. And the older you are, the longer it takes."

Gascoigne, struggling for fitness and form, plays for England in Morocco on Tuesday, his 31st birthday. His country needs him. He is the one mid-

field creator with the flair to change a match, the one Englishman who can reliably strike a ball with accuracy and imagination.

Gascoigne, Ms. Ready asserts, could achieve 30 percent more performance if he ate out of beer, kebabs, and the official World Cup burger.

Now you wouldn't need a lady like Sue if you were born a French superstar.

Zinedine Zidane, for example, did not

need the reassurance, given to the National Assembly in Paris last week by the French organizing committee for the World Cup, that the McDonald's official-restaurant label "in no way signifies it will have a monopoly or play a predominant role" in the 330,000 official meals served by French cooks to the 33 days of the tournament.

As a player employed by Juventus, the most professional club on the planet, Zidane's blood is monitored three times a day. He just would not get away with the "wrong" foods. Besides, he has a cracking local restaurant in Turin where the Juventus players regularly drop in for the

finest pasta. The Italians, like the French, know what is right for the athletic body.

The English? They are getting there.

The official nutritionist, who works alongside the official faith healer and the official trainers, claims that Les Ferdinand, a personal client of hers, improved his leaping power when he dined pizzas for fresh salmon, though his club, Tottenham Hotspur, hasn't seen enough of this due to his seemingly interminable muscle strains.

But enough frippery. The anguish in France is fueled by the sense that McDonald's is having its cake and eating it. As a take-away outfit a value-added tax of 5.5 percent is applied, whereas real restaurants pay 20.6 percent. This, say the protesters, is deception.

Some of France's sporting administrators would know about deception.

For two years, the French soccer federation has been a signatory to the

UEFA executive committee's decision to nominate the European federation's president, Lennart Johansson, for the FIFA presidency, the election for which precedes the Cup, on June 8 in Paris.

Agassi might not have known all this when he walked on court, but he knew Safin was a great deal more threatening than his ranking of No. 116. He had beaten Safin in straight sets in the first round of the Davis Cup in April in Stone Mountain, Georgia, but that was the same place where Safin very nearly defeated Jim Courier in the decisive rubber, losing in five sets after leading 6-0, 4-6, 6-4.

Agassi, who arrived in Paris ranked

20th and on something of a roll, did not

play poorly Tuesday, but he could have played more intelligently by finding a way to push forward and shorten points with volleys. The soreness in his right shoulder, which surfaced late in the first set, certainly didn't help, but then Roland Garros seldom has agreed with Agassi since he squandered two chances to win in the 1990 and 1991 finals.

At age 28, his chances of winning the

only Grand Slam title he is missing are

certainly not increasing.

Monica Seles already has won here three times, but all of those victories came before she was stabbed in the back in Hamburg in 1993 by a deranged German fan. She suffered another serious blow May 14 when her father and longtime coach, Karol, died of cancer in Florida, but Seles chose not to withdraw from Roland Garros, and in a dark tennis dress, she played some very bright tennis Tuesday in a 6-0, 6-2 victory over Annabel Croft of Australia that lasted less than an hour.

"It was just too tough for me to stay home," she said. "It's so much better to be here, to be with my family, to take each day as it goes. At the house, there are so many memories in every corner you look in the house. So many things. So many people coming up, so many of Dad's friends. It's just really tough. Sooner or later, I'm going to have to get over that hurdle. Right now, I don't want to deal with it."

"My dad would love me to play," she added. "This is what I want to do for



Monica Seles hitting a two-handed return on Tuesday to Annabel Croft. (AP Wirephoto)

the next big part of my life. Hopefully, I can just really focus on it."

However Seles performs here — and she missed more than a week of training between the Italian Open and her arrival in Paris — she is clearly a sentimental favorite.

"When I found out in Berlin that her father had passed away, I was O.K., and then 10 minutes later I just started crying."

"My dad would love me to play," she added. "This is what I want to do for

ing," said Seles's American Fed Cup teammate, Lindsay Davenport. "It was like, 'Nice five years of her life. She got stabbed, the worst thing that could probably happen, and then she loses her Dad.'

"Yet she's probably the only person I know who could handle it the way she has, even become a better person for it, maybe."

A Case of Indigestion in France Over Cup's Official Feeder

World Soccer/ROB HUGHES

field creator with the flair to change a match, the one Englishman who can reliably strike a ball with accuracy and imagination.

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president, Lennart Johansson, for the

FIFA presidency, the election for which precedes the Cup, on June 8 in Paris.

France has reneged on that agreement. It has switched its support to the rival candidate, Joseph Blatter, largely through self-interest: Blatter is running with Michel Platini on his ticket, and his promise that Platini would be made sports director of FIFA ensures a platform for the French language in 200 countries worldwide.

Four UEFA vice-presidents, supporting Johansson, denounce the French federation as disloyal. France forgets,

they say, that UEFA, bow to France thanks to unanimous support from European soccer associations.

Moreover, two senior vice presidents — Antonio Matarazzo from Italy and Senol Erzil from Turkey — warn that there will be repercussions: the threat of European members on the FIFA executive blocking Platini's appointment of sports director, and the isolation of France within the administration.

The politics of soccer are just as unpalatable as some World Cup hosts in France regard the anointing of a fast food chain in their land.

Rob Hughes is on the staff of The Times of London.

CYCLING/GIRO D'ITALIA

Leading positions Tuesday in 10th stage, 213-kilometer (131 miles), from Vasto to Matera:

1. Mario Cipollini, Italy, Saronni, 5 hours, 10 minutes, 43 sec.

2. Silvio Martinello, Italy, Team Polti, same time.

3. Emanuele Leon, Italy, Ballan, 1:1.

4. Francesco Arzuffi, Italy, Ricard, 1:1.

5. Alessandro Petacchi, Italy, Sgarra, 1:1.

6. Federico Colnago, Italy, Asics, 1:1.

7. Tommaso Rocchi, Italy, Sella, 1:1.

8. Fabio Cavigliasso, Italy, Sella, 1:1.

9. Ivan Basso, Italy, Sella, 1:1.

10. Angelo Eraldo, Italy, Sella, 1:1.

OVERALL: 1. Alex Zulle, Switzerland, 40 hours, 48 minutes, 25 sec.; 2. Michele Bartoli, Italy, Asics, 5 hours, 1:1. Leiberman, 5:1; 3. Tommaso Rocchi, Italy, Sella, 1:1. Leiberman, 5:1; 4. Tommaso Rocchi, Italy, Sella, 1:1. Leiberman, 5:1; 5. Ivan Basso, Italy, Sella, 1:1. Leiberman, 5:1; 6. Silvio Martinello, Italy, Team Polti, same time.

11. Mark McEwan, U.S., 7:45.

12. Michele Bartoli, Italy, Asics, 1:1.

13. Tommaso Rocchi, Italy, Sella, 1:1.

14. Fredrik Kessiakoff, Sweden, 1:1.

Truckers Open French Roads
But Pilots Vow 2-Week Strike

Miller's Clutch 3-Pointer Gives the Pacers New Life

By Michael Wilbon
Washington Post Service

INDIANAPOLIS — The NBA Finals will not begin Sunday. When they do begin, the Chicago Bulls may not be there to represent the Eastern Conference.

After winning the first two games of this best-of-seven series, the Bulls swaggered down here looking for a four-game sweep. But they stagger back to Chicago in a 2-2 tie with the Pacers, who are full of confidence and hope.

NBA PLAYOFFS

After Reggie Miller's three-pointer with seven-tenths of a second to play Monday gave Indiana a dramatic and controversial 96-94 victory in a mad, mad Market Square Arena.

Somewhat, even after Miller's shot, Michael Jordan managed to get off a clean three-point attempt that would have won the game for Chicago. It banked off the glass, then swirled around the rim before rolling out.

"Looked like it was in all the way," the Pacers coach, Larry Bird, said. "I knew he was going to get open somehow."

After the game, the Bulls coach, Phil Jackson, trashed the referees and suggested that Miller had thrown a punch at Ron Harper of Chicago in a tangle of bodies on the Bulls bench with 4.7 seconds remaining.

Television replays showed that Miller, after being pulled out of bounds and into the Bulls bench by Harper — no foul was called — appeared to throw a punch at Harper's chest and neck. No technical foul was called, and Miller remained in the game to hit the winning shot.

"They acted like they're afraid, the referees, on this court," Jackson said.

Miller shot back: "Them, of all people, should not be talking about holding, hitting, pushing." Referring to Jordan, he snapped: "How do you think he gets so open on all of those last-second shots?"

Miller also denied throwing a punch. "I'm not dumb enough to throw a punch in a playoff game," he said. "I was

pushing my way out of there."

The Bulls could be in a lot more trouble than simply being tied in this series, which moves back to Chicago on Wednesday for Game 5, then back here Friday for Game 6, and perhaps back to Chicago on Sunday for Game 7. For the second straight game, the Bulls blew a second-half lead. Chicago led by as many as a dozen points and held an 85-77 advantage with seven minutes to play.

But turnovers and missed free throws doomed the Bulls, as was the case Saturday. Just like in Game 3, a gimpy Miller played heroically on a sprained right ankle while Jordan and Scottie Pippen made critical mistakes. For all of Chicago's complaining, the Bulls probably would have won if Jordan hadn't committed six turnovers. Or if Pippen had made a pair of foul shots with 4.7 seconds left and Chicago up 94-93.

The Bulls built their 12-point lead with great passing, but shooting (55.7 percent for the game) and Dennis Rodman's 16 rebounds, but the Pacers stayed close.

Jordan suffered a cut over the right eye when he was poked by Rik Smits in the first quarter. The cut had to be stitched after the game.

Medical treatment couldn't really help Miller. "I shouldn't have been out there," he said. "I couldn't cut, couldn't drive. When I was out there warming up, I thought, 'I'm kidding myself.'"

The final 52 seconds were a whirl of activity — pushing, shoving and whistles blowing. Jordan, who led all scorers with 28 points, hit a jumper to put the Bulls ahead 94-91 with 52.7 seconds left. The Indians' backup point guard Travis Best hit a jumper with 33.5 seconds left to pull the Pacers within 94-93.

Chicago was looking to run the clock down and get Jordan a shot or a trip to the foul line, but Rodman was called for an offensive foul while trying to set a screen on Derrick McKey with 21.8 seconds left. That enraged Phil Jackson, who later said it was "an awful call."

Jordan blocked McKey's shot in the corner with 6.4 seconds left, but Bird



Reggie Miller going up for the shot that lifted the Pacers over the Bulls.

refused to use his final timeout. When Harper deflected McKey's inbounds pass on the next sequence and the ball was gathered in by Pippen, who was fouled with 4.7 seconds left, Bird looked like a genius.

Pippen missed both foul shots, and Jordan deflected the ball out of bounds with 2.9 seconds to play. The referee Ronnie Nunn called for a jump ball, but Hugh Evans overruled and awarded possession to the Pacers.

Using that final timeout, Bird was able to draw up a play. The first option, of course, was Miller. The second was to get the ball inside to Smits. "If you get him an open look," Bird said of Miller, "he's going to make it."

It was Miller's only shot of the fourth quarter.

"They had many, many opportunities they didn't deserve," Jackson said. "We have to be champs and prevail, and this is what our challenge is now."

Unstoppable Yankees

Irabu Strikes Out 6 as White Sox Fall, 12-0

Compiled by Dan Shulman

About four months remain in this season, and already white flags are being raised before the New York Yankees.

Only the Washington Generals, the foil of the unbeatable Harlem Globetrotters, could truly understand what went through the minds of the Chicago White Sox on Monday night when the Yankees came to town and steamrolled them, 12-0. But it was plain to see they were totally disheartened.

The Yankees scored six runs before

BASEBALL ROUNDUP

Chicago retired two batters in the first inning, and Hideki Irabu was overpowering, allowing only six hits. He also struck out six and lowered his earned-run average to 1.13, the best in the league, for the first start of his career.

The numbers are getting out of control: The Yankees are 34-10 and lead the American League East by seven games. They have won 33 of their last 39 games, for a winning percentage of .846. They have won 18 of their last 22 road games.

These Yankees have won their last three games (two against Boston, one against the White Sox) by a combined score of 58-7. The Yankees lead the league in pitching, they are hitting over .300 as a team, they are averaging a league-high 6.55 runs a game and they have allowed only two unearned runs in May.

Blue Jays 7, Red Sox 5 In Boston, Jose Canseco, Jose Cruz Jr. and Shawn Green homered in Pedro Martinez's worst outing of the season as streaking Toronto beat the Red Sox. Martinez (5-1) allowed seven runs and 12 hits in 7 2/3 innings.

Indians 7, Tigers 4 David Bell, big father Buddy's team for the first time, got a clutch hit as Cleveland beat visiting Detroit.

Buddy Bell, who played for and coached the Indians before becoming manager of the Tigers, watched 25-year-old David break a 2-2 tie with a two-run double in the sixth off Frank Castillo (2-2).

Athletics 8, Devil Rays 2 In Oakland, Mike Oquist (1-3) won for the first time in nine starts this season, and Mike MacFarlane homered twice. Scott Spiezio added a solo homer for the Athletics, who have won their first three games against the expansion Devil Rays.

Royals 6, Angels 4 Tim Belcher won despite a first-inning grand slam by Garret Anderson, and the visiting Royals converted two errors by Anaheim's outfield into five fifth-inning runs.

Twins 9, Rangers 3 Jon Shave had three hits, including his first major league homer, and Minnesota scored eight runs in the third inning off Darren Oliver (2-5) as the Twins beat the Rangers in Arlington, Texas.

Mariners 6, Orioles 4 In Seattle, Alex Rodriguez hit his AL-leading 19th homer and Russ Davis drove in four runs as the Mariners beat Baltimore.

Rockies 6, Cardinals 1 In St. Louis, Mark McGwire became the first major league player ever to hit 25 homers before June 1, but John Thomson then shut down the Cardinals and led Colorado to victory.

Giants 3, Reds 1 Barry Bonds hit a three-run homer in the third inning off Pete Harnisch (4-1), and Orel Hershiser (4-3) finished the month of May with a 4-0 record, San Francisco won for the eighth time in 12 games.

Dodgers 4, Astros 3 In Houston, Gary Sheffield homered leading off the 10th inning as Los Angeles won after wasting a 3-0 lead. Houston stranded 17 runners, including nine in the first three innings.

Braves 9, Cubs 5 In Atlanta, Kevin Millwood (7-1) allowed five hits in seven innings, and Curtis Pride had a pair of hits and two RBIs. Pride was ejected along with the Cubs' catcher, Sandy Martinez, when they brawled after a collision at home plate.

Phillies 5, Expos 3 In Philadelphia, Rico Brogna hit a two-run double off Shane Bennett (1-3) with two outs in the 14th inning to lift visiting Philadelphia.

Diamondbacks 3, Padres 2 In Phoenix, Andy Ashby allowed the go-ahead run to score on a wild pitch in the eighth, and San Diego lost three straight for the first time this year. (NYT, AP)

Women Athletes Slowly Emerge From Behind the Veil in Iran

By Jere Longman
New York Times Service

TEHRAN — Dressed in a scarf and a long blue coat, Lida Farimana practiced her target shooting on a recent afternoon, looking down the barrel of her rifle toward the Asian Games this year and the 2000-Summer Olympics in Sydney, where she hopes to be a competitive athlete, not simply a pioneer.

It hardly mattered that Farimana finished 46th among 49 competitors in her target-shooting event at the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta. Far more significant was her status as the first woman from Iran to participate in the Summer Games since the 1979 Islamic revolution and the first woman ever to carry the flag for her country in the opening Olympic ceremonies.

"This was very important for Iranian women," said Bahar Tavakolian, 31, who is studying to be a coach at the University of

Physical Education. "All over the world, people think we are in prison behind the veil, that we can't do anything. It's not true."

Prompted in large part by Faezeh Hashemi, an outspoken member of Parliament and the daughter of former President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, Iranian women are taking part in competitive and recreational sports in unprecedented numbers.

Hashemi, who is vice president of the Iranian Olympic Committee, said roughly 2 million Iranian women participated in some form of sport, compared with 400,000 two years ago and 10,000 before the Islamic revolution began in the late 1970s.

Whatever the recent relaxations of fundamentalist traditions, though, women still participate in sports in some uniquely circumscribed ways: Those who run do so not only in sneakers but in long coats and pants and scarves; the country's aspiring downhill skiers are not likely to be competitive

soon, in light of the fact that the skin-tight, aerodynamically advantageous ski outfits are still deemed too provocative; women who water-ski must wear a waterproof coat and a scarf, which can be dangerous as well as cumbersome; and women can only watch soccer on television, not enter the actual stadiums.

But the changes, often profound, sometimes quite nuanced, can be seen across the country.

Schoolgirls again can play soccer, the national sport that was banned for women during the revolution, and many recreational sports are no longer segregated by gender in Tehran's city parks: Visitors to Mellat Park in central Tehran in the early morning can see men and women jogging together and playing ping-pong. In the afternoon in Laleh Park, women go in-line skating and play recreational soccer with men.

In the most private of Tehran's sports clubs, men and women sometimes even swim together.

Sport is hardly the greatest achievement of Iranian women, who can vote, hold office and work as teachers, lawyers and doctors or in business; nor is it the most urgent concern in an Islamic nation where women cannot work or get a passport without a husband's permission, where they must have a father's written consent to marry, where they can be divorced for no reason and where, with few exceptions, they automatically lose custody of their children when a marriage dissolves.

Still, Hashemi, 35, a mother of two who favors lumberjack shirts, jeans and sneakers under her black chador, views sports for women as an essential means of cultural reform, and the breakthroughs in participation and competition, she says, reflect the incremental freedoms gained since last year with the election of the relatively moderate President Mohammed Khatami, who is widely supported by women.

Essentially, the same games and

sports available to Iranian men are available to women, from chess to karate. Occasionally, women compete against men in equestrian events. When competing indoors, women can wear shorts and T-shirts to play such sports as basketball and volleyball, but men, and especially photographers, are not allowed to watch. Women wear Western-style ski suits on the slopes, as long the outfits are not too tight and include a hat or scarf.

There are still clerics and others who argue that sports for women are barred by the Koran. Others protest it as trifling and sexually suggestive. But Hashemi, president of the Islamic Countries' Women's Sports Solidarity Council, and many women say those arguments are born of a misreading of religious texts and of narrow-minded political reasons.

"Some believe that if women have the opportunity to do what they want in sport, they will take advantage and be free in every field," Hashemi said.

Capitals Win in OT

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Todd Krygier, a defenseman who scored only two goals all season and didn't even play in 37 games, skated onto the ice at the

NHL PLAYOFFS

start of an overtime shift and found Andrei Nikolishko's pass at his feet between the face-off circles.

Krygier blasted a shot past Dominik Hasek's glove side 3:01 into the extra period, giving the Washington Capitals a 3-2 victory over the Buffalo Sabres on Monday night and tying the Eastern Conference finals at one game apiece.

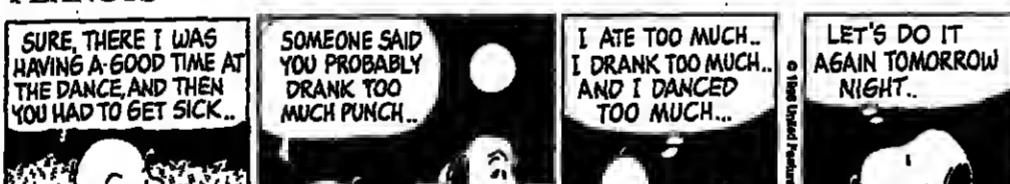
The victory, which snapped Buffalo's eight-game winning streak, was the first for the Capitals in a hat or scarf.

President Bill Clinton was at the game, sitting with Vice President Al Gore. Mr. Clinton was the first sitting president to attend an NHL game, the league said, but he left at the end of regulation time and didn't see the game-winning goal.

Buffalo needed a gift goal to get to overtime. The Capitals appeared to have the victory in hand until Esa Tikkanen deflected Barnaby's slapshot between goaltender Olaf Kolzig's legs and into his own net with 56 seconds remaining in regulation.

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SO WHAT'S THE WORST THAT CAN HAPPEN?

MY WIFE RAN OFF WITH ANOTHER MAN.

OBSERVER

The Isolationist Blues

By Russell Baker

NEW YORK — When someone says "Indians," most Americans probably think of gambling-casino operators. So isolationist have we become.

Even Washington's best minds were astonished to learn that the Indians were exploding atom bombs.

I am not saying we are so dumb we don't remember that a place called "India" can be found on a map by anybody who scored 1590 on the SATs. India is where "Gunga Din" was set. Or was it Pakistan? Whatever.

So after remembering that there is an India, Washington biggies were very cross. India had been very rude. If India had been a schoolboy, the teacher would have sent a testy note home to its mother.

Instead, America is going to cut off India's goodies. That is its usual punishment for countries that irritate it. When you've got a country that needs to be taught a good lesson, cut off its goodies.

India is not the only country that bores Americans except when it's irritating them. Who can name the president of France, the prime minister of Canada? Who cares what's happened lately in Cairo, Athens, Krasnoyarsk?

The people who run the world's big international corporations: that's who. As our most fervent capitalists are always explaining, the future lies in the global marketplace, kids, so don't let hometown sentimentality about American jobs and industry make you do something stupid.

Big-time U.S. businesses with political muscle have forced the politicians to stay awake about matters Chinese, for instance, but without smart capitalists leaning on them, the Clinton people seemed to forget that India was around.

So did the press. The media are mostly just as isolationist as the rest of the political culture. The story that doesn't entertain has a hard time getting coverage, electronic or print. The theme song of the American media these days should be "Let Me Entertain You."

Before isolationism became stifling, tube-watching America would probably have seen somebody in New Delhi pointing out that while the United States might adore nuclear China, India tended to view it as a potentially hostile power on its border.

Doesn't sound very entertaining, does it?

Most of what passes for foreign news is stuff of the Princess Di variety. Newsstands are infested with it. The networks may stint on coverage of everything east of New York and west of Washington, but give them a Princess Di funeral and they dispatch their anchors across oceans.

Anchors, for Heaveo's sake! Men who earn nearly as much as baseball players!

Give them a Pope going head-to-head with exasperating Castro, and off go the anchors to Cuba until Monica Lewinsky makes the scene, whereupon it's "So long, Holy Father, we hear America crying, 'Monica, you anchors! Give us total Monica!'"

The rain forests burn. Mexico falls into ruin. India tests an H-bomb. The old arms race begins again.

New York Times Service

Film Shines a Japanese Light on World War II

By Kevin Sullivan and Mary Jordan
Washington Post Service

TOKYO — Finally, a feel-good World War II movie for the Japanese.

"Pride, the Fateful Moment" turns the tables on generations of Hollywood war films in which decent American military heroes avenge the atrocities of Japanese militarists who are almost comically sneaky and evil in their little brimmed hats.

The film, which opened Saturday with police guards stationed at many theaters, is gathering steam here like a locomotive. In it, Americans are drawn as cartoonish bad guys — big, awkward, mean and violecent braggarts who trample all over the humble and mild-mannered Japanese of postwar U.S. occupation. The Americans shout, sweat, rage and connive. The Japanese speak politely, love deeply and suffer their boorish conundrum with dignity.

A major picture from one of Japan's leading studios, Toei Co., "Pride" tells the story of General Hideki Tojo, the prime minister who led much of Japan's war effort. Hanged as a war criminal in 1948, Tojo emerges in this movie as a loving husband and gentle grandfather with an admirable devotion to his emperor and his nation.

Fifty years after the war, a remarkable perception gap still exists between Japan and the rest of the world. The nation's stance on World War II remains a central element of its relationship with China, South Korea and other Asian countries that suffered at the hands of Japanese soldiers. Many are still deeply angry at what they see as Japan's lack of remorse, and "Pride," which its producers hope will be released in the United States, is certain to re-ignite that anger.

The film is actually as Hollywood as can be — a splash of documentary in a sea of entertainment, the genre perfected by Oliver Stone in "JFK" and "Nixon." In this treat-

ment, the man who helped make "Banzai" a terrifying household word in American homes becomes a pretty sweet old duffer. Tojo, apparently, loved nothing more than raising tomatoes with his wife.

Certainly, many Japanese don't agree. Ezra Vogel of Harvard University, one of America's leading scholars on Japan and China, said that the philosophy expressed in the movie represents "only one Japanese view of things," and that many Japanese believe the war-era military was never held fully accountable for its conduct.

Yukio Matsuyama, a professor of American politics in Tokyo and former chief editorial writer for the influential Asahi Shimbun, shook his head after a recent screening of the movie. "Counterproductive," he said. "The movie may encourage hawkish, conservative people, but will have scarcely any influence over the majority. I hope our youngsters will be influenced by it."

Portrayed by Masahiko Tsugawa, one of Japan's foremost actors, Tojo comes across the way many Japanese continue to see Japan's conduct in the war: honorable, if ultimately mistake and overzealous in its pursuit of it.

For many in the West, Tojo's mustache and shaved head have come to symbolize the militarism and fanaticism that produced the kamikaze pilots and the gory battles of Okinawa and Iwo Jima. But in this movie, Tojo's only fanaticism is his devotion to duty and to nation. His shaved head here suggests wisdom, his impulsive face strength and decency. His mustache becomes a plaything for the cute, chubby fingers of an adoring grandson.

I wanted to depict Tojo as a human being — not a hero, but a human being trapped by history," said Hideaki Kase, a political historian who was a driving force behind the movie. "We wanted to present Japan and the world that Japan is not solely responsible for the Pacific war and that the so-called Tokyo Trial was unjust, illegal and unfair."

The Japanese military, fairly judge the accused?

When Tojo's lawyers ask why the defendants' crimes were any worse than dropping an atomic bomb on civilians in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the movie shows how prosecutors interrupted the Japanese translation and censored the remarks in the press and official trial record.

In fact, the film's portrayal is generally accurate. But by showcasing the flaws of the trial, the filmmakers are clearly attempting to suggest that other historical interpretations of the war are also wrong.

The film presents grisly testimony from a priest who says he was present in Nanjing during the infamous slaughter of hundreds of thousands of Chinese. But under

cross-examination, he admits he actually witnessed only one killing. The message: Nanjing wasn't as bad as it has been made out. And the larger message: People have been lying about Japan for too long, and it's time for that to stop.

The movie's release coincides with widespread publicity in America for "The Rape of Nanking," by the American author Iris Chang. The book is a spectaculair graphic account of the rapes, beatings and other murders that Japanese troops committed in 1937 in Nanjing. Chang puts the death toll at more than 300,000. The book has infuriated some historians and others here, who contend that it grossly overstates the death toll and is based on hearsay.

As international criticism of "Pride" has risen, a government spokesman said last week that the movie "in no way reflects the position of the government of Japan." He went on to say that Japan felt "deep remorse and heartfelt apology" for those who "underwent tremendous pain and suffering during the war."

Western scholars say that Japan has not fully opened its archives from the war period. The nation glosses over the struggle in its textbooks and officials are reluctant to examine the era. For decades, discussing the war was taboo.

But that is beginning to change, and "Pride" is part of the cultural shift.

Even though several prime ministers have issued what seem to be sincere apologies for the suffering caused by Japan during World War II, few of its Asian neighbors pay attention. Instead, they talk about their fears that Japan will "rise again," and they insist Japan has never apologized adequately.

Ironically, although Japan is asailed in other countries for not apologizing enough, inside Japan critics

condemn the government for failing to respond to what they see as unfair demands for repentence. "Pride, the Fateful Moment" should make those people very happy.



General Hideki Tojo visiting a shrine to the war dead in 1941.

PEOPLE

THE U.S. Senate unanimously confirmed President Bill Clinton's nomination of William Ivey to succeed Jane Alexander as chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts. Ivey, 53, a folklorist and ethnomusicologist, has been director since 1971 of the Country Music Foundation in Nashville, Tennessee, which operates the Country Music Hall of Fame. The president praised Ivey for his "deep understanding of and commitment to American creativity." Alexander's term expired in October.

So much for monster-sized expectations. The scaly star of "Godzilla" fended off bullets, torpedoes and missiles all Memorial Day weekend, but the movie didn't live up to its hype by posting a record as the summer movie season began. Promoted for more than a year with a campaign that insisted "size matters," the film earned \$55.5 million over the U.S. holiday weekend — about the amount spent on its marketing. "In a word, 'Godzilla' was a disappointment," said a film industry analyst, Arthur Rockwell of Drake Capital Securities. "We're not looking at a flop. It's just not the kind of blockbuster they were hoping for."

One of the Spice Girls, Geri Halliwell, disclosed Tuesday that she underwent emergency surgery seven years ago to remove a small lump in her breast, the band's spokeswoman said. Halliwell, one of the flamboyant stars in the million-

selling British pop quintet, was working as a dancer at London's Astoria nightclub when she discovered a lump in her right breast. "I knew that if the lump was cancerous I would lose my breast," Halliwell, 25, told The Sun newspaper. "It was really a tough time. But it made me realize how precious life is." The lump turned out to be benign.

Queen Sophia of Spain returned to Greece for the first time in 17 years. The wife of King Juan Carlos is the sister of Greece's former King Constantine. She left her country in 1962, and returned briefly to attend her mother's funeral in 1981. King Juan Carlos and Queen Sophia were greeted at the start of a five-day visit by President Constantine Stephanopoulos and Prime Minister Costas Simitis, but there were no large crowds and they made no public comments.

The rock guitarist Robbie Robertson took home the lifetime achievement award at the first Native American Music Awards. Wayne Newton played host for the ceremony, which was attended by 1,500 people at the Foxwoods Resort Casino in Ledyard, Connecticut. Robertson, who has Mohawk ancestors, was honored for helping open the door to the music world for American Indians. More than 150 musicians were nominated for awards in 20 categories. Jimi Hendrix became the first inductee into the Native American Music Hall of Fame. The guitarist, who died in 1970, had Cherokee ancestry.

The singer, known for her silky rendition of "Stormy Weather," received an honorary degree from Yale University at a graduation ceremony cut short by pouring rain. Lena Horne, 80, was given a standing ovation as she accepted her honorary doctorate of humane letters. The president of Yale, Richard Levin, praised Horne for her artistic achievements and social activism. "In the stormy weather of a segregated society," he said, "you were a pioneer who refused to be stereotyped."

Sam Yorty, the controversial mayor of Los Angeles in the turbulent 1960s, was admitted to a hospital for an undisclosed ailment. Yorty, 88, was in stable condition at the UCLA Medical Center, a spokeswoman said. His family did not want other information released. Yorty was elected mayor in 1960 despite opposition from fellow Democrats who were inclined when he endorsed Richard Nixon over John Kennedy for president in 1960.

Bill Carley took his time paying off an overdue lawyer's bill. Forty years. Carley, 70, said he never forgot how James Perez helped him with his divorce four decades ago. He just never got around to paying the fee. But he recently tracked down his former lawyer and sent him a check for \$1,800. Perez said: "I'd like to frame the check and keep it. It restores my faith in humanity."



VACATION — Prime Minister Tony Blair of Britain is sending his old friend Lynton to a summer festival at the Teddy Bear Museum in Stratford-upon-Avon.

